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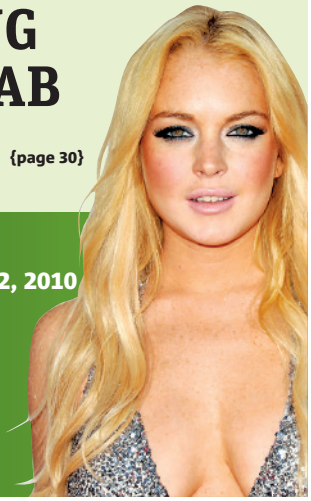
THIS WEEK FOR TICKETS BOUGHT IN ONTARIO ONLY
6 BONUS DRAWS FOR $1 MILLION

**COP CHARGED**
SIU SAYS G20 TAKEDOWN WAS ASSAULT {page 3}

# INVESTIGATED
## POLICE LOOKING INTO LILO REHAB INCIDENT DISH {page 30}



TORONTO metro®
Wednesday, December 22, 2010
www.metronews.ca
News worth sharing.

**Juniors.** In flight

▶ Canada forward Ryan Johansen jumps in front of Sweden goalie Robin Lehner last night.

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Another win as Juniors gear up

**Team Canada continued its run through pre-competition action with a 4-1 victory over Sweden at the Air Canada Centre last night. The Canadians have one more tune-up game tomorrow against Finland, before opening against Russia in the world junior hockey championships on Boxing Day in Buffalo.**

## Life is beautiful

Afghan comic finds humour amidst tragedy {page 12}

## Stuff research in your stocking

Paul Sullivan on the grinches who steal Christmas {page 24}

# Deflating the DUI elephant

**▶ LCBO unveils iPhone application to help combat drunk driving ▶ Speak Up! app will send reminders to friends to think twice before getting behind the wheel**

How do you tell friends they've had too much to drink and shouldn't drive home from your holiday party?

There's an app for that.

Working with Toronto digital agency dial9, the LCBO has developed a free iPhone application in iTunes that sends pre-recorded voice messages in your name to the mobile phones, BlackBerrys and iPhones of up to 20 friends at once.

"It's not always easy to ask a friend for their keys," said liquor store spokesman Chris Layton.

The "Speak Up!" app has nine messages to choose in a male or female voice.

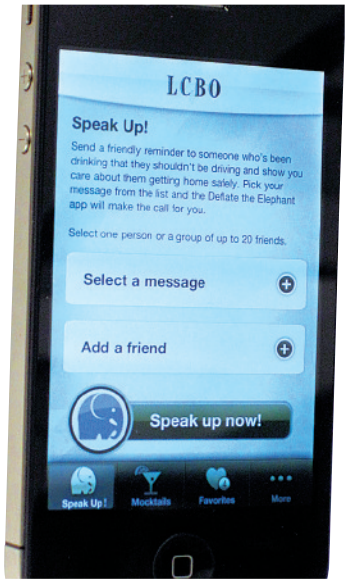
They range from before-the-party suggestions to plan for a safe trip home to at-the-party reminders to minimize the chances revellers will land in trouble or in a booze-fuelled crash.

"Look forward to seeing you at the party! If you're going to drink, don't forget to take transit or arrange a designated driver, or we can call you a cab," says one.

Another, for later: "As the night winds down, I just wanted to remind everyone that if you've been drinking and need a cab, come see me and I'll call one for you."

Customer research suggested the toughest thing for many hosts is approaching guests on the issue of drinking and driving, hence the arm's-length approach to an issue that is often the elephant in room.

"Everybody's been there. We wanted to remove the embarrassment," said




Dez Lo, chief operating officer of dial9, an arm of advertising agency Due North, which has done the LCBO's "deflate the elephant" ad campaign to fight impaired driving.

Lo's team developed the app — which includes 50 alcohol-free mocktail recipes to help hosts plan a party — in just two months this fall to meet the holiday season deadline.

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# A subway solution for Toronto?

The architect of Ontario's successful strategy to build public infrastructure with private money has a subway solution for Toronto Mayor Rob Ford.

Liberal Don Valley East MPP David Caplan, the former provincial public infrastructure renewal minister, said Ford's dream of new subway lines to replace the Transit City LRTs can be financed using the means developed by Premier Dalton McGuinty's government.

"Subways are the way to go," said Caplan, whose "alternative financing procurement" plan has led to the construction of 53 hospitals and other public buildings using private capital since 2003.

"There's no reason why we couldn't build two or three kilometres of new tunnels per year," he said, noting he is hoping to meet with Ford's officials in the new year to discuss his proposal.

Caplan said there are tens of billions of dollars in private capital waiting to be invested in major public projects.

To bankroll the kind of subway expansion Ford has envisioned, he said the city would need to create two separate entities, "Tunnel Company" to bore the tunnels, and "Station Company" to market the stations.

"The station itself ... would be attractive to the private sector if they operated the concessions — retail, restaurants, that stuff underneath — but then also on top with air rights," said Caplan.

Suggesting the city work with Infrastructure Ontario, the provincial agency overseeing public-private partnership projects, Caplan said the tunnels could be paid for with gas tax revenues or some of $8.15 billion earmarked for Transit City light rail.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ David Caplan

# Cop charged with assault in G20 arrest

## Const. Babak Andalib-Goortani scheduled to appear in court Jan. 24

The violent arrest of a G20 protester that was caught on video and caused controversy when no officers were initially held responsible has resulted in a criminal charge.

Toronto police Const. Babak Andalib-Goortani was charged yesterday with assault with a weapon in the takedown of Adam Nobody at the Ontario legislature during the June summit.

The SIU originally concluded there appeared to be an excessive use of force, but that it was impossible to identify the officer from the video.

Two officers were designated as subject officers during the investigation, but they would not agree to be interviewed, which they have the right to refuse.

The SIU reopened its investigation after Toronto police Chief Bill Blair suggested in a radio interview that the police were arresting a violent armed offender, and that a segment depicting the use of a weapon had been removed from the tape. He apologized a few days later, saying there was no evidence there was any "intent to mislead" with the video.

Videographer John Bridge told the SIU he had turned his camera off for a few seconds because he thought he might have to retreat from advancing police.

During its new investigation, the SIU received two more videos of Nobody's arrest and the Toronto police gave the agency names of 15 officers who might have been in the vicinity or involved in the arrest.

The SIU singled out three of those officers, but they refused to give statements. None of the 12 other officers said they could identify the officers in the video.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Victim**

- A video of the arrest, viewed by tens of thousands of people since it was posted on YouTube, shows people running from a line of police in riot gear and at least five officers chasing Adam Nobody, pictured above.
- He is swarmed and at least one officer can be seen making a punching motion. Nobody was treated in hospital for a fracture below his right eye.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Adam Nobody being chased by a group of about six uniformed police officers, captured from video taken by John Bridge.

# Stronach quitting Magna board

Belinda Stronach is resigning from the board of Magna International Inc., the Canadian autoparts giant founded by her father Frank Stronach.

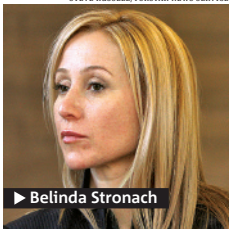
Belinda Stronach, who was for a short time chief executive of Magna before she became a member of Parliament, had been a director and executive vice-chairman of the board.

The company didn't give a reason for her decision to quit the Magna board, effective Dec. 31.

The Stronach family trust remains the largest individual shareholder of Magna International.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



▶ Belinda Stronach

## News in brief

### Sally Ann falling short

**CHARITY.** The Salvation Army says its annual Christmas fundraising drive is falling short by nearly $6 million. A spokesman says the organization has managed to raise $12.2 million so far.

### Arrest in old sex case

**CRIME.** Toronto police say a man has been arrested in connection with sexual assault allegations involving a girl that go back to the '70s. David Leblanc, 69, of Mississauga, is charged. THE CANADIAN PRESS

1 news

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**Why leaks, Wiki and otherwise, are critical for a functioning democracy. More at metronews.ca/spindoctor**

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U.S. man gets nearly 20 years in prison for sex abuse at Haitian school. Scan code for story.

RENE JOHNSTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Employee Amber Wreaks stocks shelves at the Leslieville Canadian Tire. Shoppers may be able to find organic clothing, fair trade chocolate and LED Christmas lights, but Canadian retailers are still not doing enough to stock environmentally-sustainable products.

# Retailers only dreaming they're green?

## Report says too often focus is on easy, cost-saving initiatives like reducing packaging, replacing bulbs

Retailers may not be as green as they say they are, a report by the University of Western Ontario says.

While consumers can find sustainable products, such as fair trade chocolate, organic clothing and LED Christmas lights in stores, retailers could be doing more to "green their operations," the report says.

"I think a lot of the whole sustainability movement has been focused on the dirty industries and … retailers often fly below the radar. They're just the provider of the goods. The emphasis is on the product, rather than the firm that's providing it," said Tima Bansal, director of the university's centre for building sustainable value.

**34.5**

**Noting that shoppers spent $34.5 billion on goods and services last December, the report on the retail sector concludes consumers have good reason to ask questions.**

Called Dreaming Of A Green Christmas? Sustainability And The Retail Sector, the report finds retailers could improve in three distinct areas:

- They have been slow to adopt sustainable products, due to lack of third-party certification.
- They have adopted broad but weak social and environmental supply chain standards that are poorly monitored.
- Retail employees lack job security, and workplace diversity and discrimination practices often fall short of the retailer's stated policies.

Written by two doctoral candidates at the university's Ivey School of Business, the report is based on data supplied by Jantzi Sustainalytics, the Toronto-based firm that advises institutional investors on responsible investing practices.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

# Serious problems in long-term care: Marin

There are "serious, systemic problems" with the Ontario government's oversight of long-term care facilities, which house 75,000 people in the province, ombudsman Andre Marin reported yesterday.

However, the provincial watchdog said he was "guardedly optimistic" new legislation and changes at the Ministry of Health would address the concerns.

Concerns raised by the ombudsman have been addressed to focus more on the needs of long-term care residents, said Health Minister Deb Matthews.

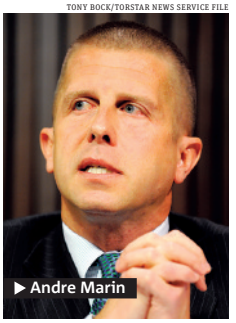
Among the serious concerns raised were "the inconsistent interpretation and application of standards, inspection delays and slow and insufficient response to complaints."

Random annual inspections of long-term care homes are rarely the surprise they're supposed to be, especially when there's always an end-of-year rush to complete inspections, said Marin.

The Ministry of Health only "very rarely" revokes a home's licence for consistently failing to meet the provincial standards.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TONY BOCK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE



▶ Andre Marin

### Concerns

- **Andre Marin** began an investigation of the 616 long-term care homes after reports that three-quarters of them consistently failed to meet the province's 450 standards of care.
- **The ombudsman** received 100 complaints before he started his probe in July 2008, but received 450 more during the probe.
- **Some homes** repeatedly failed to give residents the minimum two baths a week, while inspectors encountered others in foul-smelling diapers.
- **The investigation** found the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care "routinely" tells people to take complaints to the home operators, something residents and families found intimidating, said Marin.

## Ticket law aims to end scalping

Ontario's new law to stop U.S. entertainment giant Ticketmaster and others from selling and reselling tickets to the same event is now in effect.

The Opposition says it will do nothing to end scalping or keep prices down.

Attorney General Chris Bentley says the Ticket Speculation Act will ensure people have fair access to events.

The province made the changes after people complained they tried to buy concert tickets the minute they went on sale, only to be redirected to another site where prices were much higher.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Police ID men killed in QEW crash

Police have released the names of two men killed in a crash on the QEW in Oakville.

Scott Ineson, 31, who worked in Mississauga, was driving a Honda Civic that went off the eastbound lanes of the highway Monday, went through a ditch and hit a light pole at Bronte Road.

Ineson and his passenger, Chris Meyer, 30, both from Burlington, were pronounced dead at the scene.

Police don't yet know why the car went off the highway, but the investigation continues.

METRO

## Man faces charges in break-ins

A Whitby man is facing 60 charges in connection with a rash of thefts from vehicles. Durham regional police say between early November and mid-December someone broke into dozens of parked vehicles in residential neighbourhoods in Whitby.

Most of the stolen property has now been returned to the owners.

Geoffrey Tyler, 28, of Whitby is charged with 28 counts of mischief under $5,000, 22 counts of theft under $5,000, six counts of possession of stolen property, three counts of breach of probation and one count of possession of break-in instruments.

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# Man jailed in Creba case pleads guilty to gun trafficking

## Wiretapping proved man told someone else where to find a gun

It's called a "windfall offence," a crime police stumble across while conducting an unrelated investigation. In this case, police were wiretapping Tyshaun Barnett's telephone conversations while investigating the 2005 Boxing Day slaying of 15-year-old Jane Creba.

Barnett was sentenced last August to 12 years in prison for manslaughter for his role in her death on Yonge Street. But on June 4, 2006, he was out of custody — though under house arrest awaiting trial for drug trafficking — and agreeing to lend a gun to an unknown male.

During the calls, the unknown male told Barnett he needed the gun to deal with someone who had tried to rob someone else. Barnett told him the gun was in his apartment and that the keys were with "Mommy," Crown attorney Andrew Sabbadini told Superior Court yesterday.

Yesterday, Barnett, 23, pleaded guilty to one count of trafficking a firearm. "I'm sorry," Barnett said in a clear voice after Justice John McMahon asked him if he had anything to say.

McMahon said taking into consideration Barnett's remorse and guilty plea, he was sentencing Barnett to 18 months consecutive to the 12 years he is already serving.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

# White Christmas in Toronto? Could be

STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Toronto has had a 47 per cent chance of a white Christmas over the past 55 years, according to Environment Canada.

## The Prairies, parts of Quebec will see snow The Maritimes won't

Environment Canada senior climatologist David Phillips says much of the country will be wrapped in a white blanket on Christmas morning.

"Probably the one surprise is, wow, it looks like southern Ontario, even Toronto, will see a white Christmas," said Phillips.

"That's not always a done deal."

Most of Toronto already has enough snow, but it won't add any more. Daytime high temperatures will be – 2 C or – 3 C. Sometimes snow can disappear through evaporation, Phillips noted.

"Going to be a little tricky in the Toronto area. My guess is that it will be (a white Christmas) but we'll be counting snowflakes on Christmas morning to see if that's going to be the case."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### White north

- Some areas in central New Brunswick should see a white Christmas. But most of the Maritimes are snow-free and a big storm with rain and wind is coming their way, said Phillips.
- There's just no chance for a white Christmas in Fredericton, Moncton, Halifax, Sydney, Charlottetown, St. John's, and Corner Brook, N.L., Phillips said
- Vancouver won't have a white Christmas, but there's only been an 11 per cent chance over 55 years that the city has one anyway, said Phillips.

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## News in brief

### Man charged in kids' deaths

**CRIME.** Police say an Edmonton man has been charged with first-degree murder in the deaths of two young children.

The 31-year-old has been in custody since he was picked up by officers at an Edmonton townhouse late Sunday night.

Police were called in to check on the well-being of the children but found them dead.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### Court upends Tories' victory

**ELECTIONS.** The Ontario Court of Appeal has overturned a campaign financing victory by the federal Conservatives over Elections Canada.

The court ruled that campaign spending limits are a key tool to ensure Canada's "egalitarian model of elections" and cannot be upended without Parliament's consent.

The decision overturns a court victory by the Conservative Fund Canada that allowed the federal party to rewrite its 2004 and 2006 election accounts, effectively raising Conservative campaign spending limits both past and future.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### Japan braces for tsunami

**NATURAL DISASTER.** A strong earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 7.4 has struck in the Pacific Ocean, triggering a tsunami warning off the southern coast of Japan.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESSS

### Mexico's triple tragedy

SCANLIFE

A daughter, her mother and a brother-in-law are dead in a Mexican city terrorized by drug violence. Scan code for the story.

# Cancer faker put under house arrest

**Woman to be confined 24 hours a day for 3 months, and overnight for another 3 months Court also recommended community service with cancer society**

A 21-year-old woman who faked cancer to defraud people in northern Ontario was handed six months of house arrest yesterday, with special provisions made after she told court she's pregnant.

Jessica Ann Leeder admitted in court last month that she defrauded coworkers at a Ford dealership of more than $5,000. She pretended to have lung and stomach cancer for close to a year, while accepting support, including money, from the community.

Although Leeder faced a maximum sentence of 14 years in prison, the Crown indicated before yesterday's sentencing hearing that Leeder would not face significant jail time.

"I'm very sorry for the actions I've done and I want the chance to make things right," Leeder, who had pleaded guilty to fraud over $5,000, told Judge Martin Lambert yesterday.

The judge noted Leeder spent "five hard days" in jail and took the guilty plea into account, saying it showed remorse.

Leeder told the court she is pregnant — the Crown said it could not verify that claim — and the sentence was tailored to the medical needs of an expectant mother.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CONTRIBUTED/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Jessica Ann Leeder, shown in this undated photo, was sentenced to six months of house arrest yesterday.

### Bogus cause

- Leeder's case made waves in the northern Ontario city of Timmins, with some people last month saying they couldn't believe a local woman was charged in a cancer scam so soon after Ashley Kirilow of Burlington pleaded guilty to a similar ruse.
- And just weeks after that, Toronto police charged a man with fraud after he allegedly pretended to have terminal brain cancer. Police say friends of Christopher Gordon, 29, organized a fundraiser and collected $3,000.

# East Coast battered again

## Latest Atlantic storm causes flooding, widespread power outages

The third major storm to slam into the East Coast this month caused coastal flooding yesterday that submerged roads and wharfs in eastern New Brunswick.

Around the Atlantic region, powerful wind gusts left thousands without electricity and a combination of wind and heavy seas sidelined ferry traffic between Nova Scotia and Newfoundland.

In New Brunswick, the Emergency Measures Organization said much of the province's eastern coastline from Shediac to Miramichi was experiencing flooding and some coastal roads were closed.

**"It's very important ... that people take into consideration their health and safety and they heed the recommendations to go to higher ground."**
NEW BRUNSWICK PREMIER DAVID ALWARD

Environment Canada was predicting a storm surge of between 2.6 and three metres along the eastern coast. Meghan Cumby, an EMO official, said last night that some people had voluntarily left their homes in the Rexton and Richibucto areas.

Premier David Alward said that residents had been advised to prepare their properties and themselves for a possible evacuation.

Alward said he has never experienced such a series of flooding events in his province over his lifetime.

The EMO in New Brunswick reported that some areas were getting wind gusts in excess of 100 kilometres per hour.

Localized coastal flooding was also reported elsewhere, including parts of northern Nova Scotia.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Israel.** Rocket

▶ Israeli police officers examine a rocket, fired by Palestinian militants from the Gaza Strip, after it landed in a kibbutz yesterday south of Ashkelon, Israel.

TSAFIR ABAYOV/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Violence flares up again

**Violence is escalating along the Israeli-Gaza border, with the Israeli air force striking seven suspected militant sites in Gaza, and Palestinian militants sending a rocket into southern Israel.**

# Pacific storms pound California

**13** Centimetres of rain in downtown Los Angeles since Friday, more than one-third of the average annual precipitation.

Rescuers pulled motorists from swamped cars and found hikers trapped by a swollen creek, as Pacific storms dumped more rain yesterday on saturated California and forecasters warned of a likely intensification before it all ends.

Virtually the entire state has been affected by the storms that began Friday, dumping moisture from far Northern California south to San Diego. More than 30 centimetres of rain have fallen in parts of the Santa Monica Mountains in the south, and four metres of snow has accumulated at Mammoth Mountain ski resort.

The National Weather Service predicted an even fiercer storm would roll into Southern California beginning last night that could cause flash flooding in some areas.

At the eastern end of the San Gabriel mountains, about 15 people were evacuated Monday after the Sheep Creek Wash overflowed and threatened homes, fire officials told the Los Angeles Times.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# Flights can't come soon enough for angry travellers

**Even as the second of Heathrow's two runways reopens, officials say they need more time to clear snow, restart equipment, and move planes and crews back into place**

The snow was melting off London's streets, but Heathrow Airport told infuriated passengers it won't restore full service until tomorrow — five days after a 12-centimetre snowfall turned hundreds of thousands of holiday plans into a nightmare of cancelled flights and painful nights sleeping on terminal floors.

Travellers' anger boiled over into politics as Britain's prime minister offered to put troops on snow-clearing duty and Europe's top transport official threatened tougher regulation of airports unable to cope with wintry weather.

"It's pathetic — you would think this is a Third World country," said 29-year-old Janice Phillips, who was trying to get back to Minneapolis. She sat next to her sleeping boyfriend, his head propped against a backpack, his mouth ajar. "All they've been talking about was this snow forecast. You would think the government could do a better job."

"It's not even snowing!" said 19-year-old Candie Sparks, who was trying to get back to Santa Fe, New Mexico. "It's crazy."

Days after a driving snowfall that ended Saturday, the terminals at Heathrow were clogged yesterday with passengers desperately looking at computer screens to see if they would be able to get to their destinations. So many people were sprawled on the floor that it was difficult to walk.

Some wore Santa hats decorated with vulgar signs making fun of their most un-merry Christmas.

Transportation experts said that after many years without heavy snowfall, underinvestment has left Heathrow and dozens of other airports across Britain and Ireland without enough equipment or personnel to cope with big storms. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Air Canada

**Air Canada reinstated all flights to and from London's Heathrow Airport starting last night.**

- The airline announced in the afternoon it was going back to its regular schedule after several days of strict flight restrictions due to extreme weather in the U.K.
- That meant some flights left Canada for London yesterday evening.
- Nine Air Canada flights from Heathrow were scheduled to land in Canadian airports today.

## U.K. terror plot aimed at landmarks, officials say

A large-scale terror attack was aimed at British landmarks and public spaces, security officials said yesterday as more details emerged and police searched the homes of 12 British suspects being held for questioning.

The men — whose ages range from 17 to 28 — were arrested Monday in a large counterterrorism raid.

Possible targets that were scouted include the Houses of Parliament in London and shopping areas around the U.K., according to a security official who spoke on condition of anonymity because the investigation was ongoing. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**28**

**Police have up to 28 days to either charge the suspects or release them.**

**Spain.** Anti-smoking law

▶ A woman smokes a cigarette in a bar in Pamplona, Spain, yesterday.

ALVARO BARRIENTOS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Adios to smoky bars

**Spain's smoke-filled bars, corner cafes and restaurants are on the verge of extinction after lawmakers yesterday approved a tough new anti-smoking law that will rid the country of its reputation as one of Western Europe's easiest places to light up.**

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▶ Majajo is also inspired by Rowan Atkinson as Mr. Bean.

# Seeing the funny side of Afghanistan

## Successful comedian and taxi driver Braves Taliban death threats Inspired by Charlie Chaplin

In one of the most dangerous cities in the world, there is a man with a plastic face and a baritone voice who laughs as he stares down the miseries of war.

And others laugh with him.

He is known affectionately as Majajo, and he is the biggest name in Kandahar comedy.

Parts Jim Carrey, Weird Al Yankovic, Jerry Seinfeld and Charlie Chaplin, he is a sort of Everyman for Kandahar's downtrodden.

Kandahar city may be a citizen's nightmare, but it is a comedian's dream.

"I want to make people laugh to help them take their mind off things for a while," Majajo, 32, said during a recent interview.

**"My goal is to make the people of Afghanistan laugh even though all around people are killing each other."**
**MAJAJO, COMEDIAN**

Majajo doesn't really have a standup routine, as there are no comedy clubs in Kandahar. But he has released a series of audio cassettes, which feature his impressions, songs and jokes.

He regularly does wedding gigs and much of his fame is based on weekly television appearances.

His routine includes impressions of a BBC news anchor, a cooking show host and a flickering light bulb. He even has a joke set in an airplane, even though he has never actually been on one.

Majajo's ability to connect with his audiences comes in part from his proximity to their reality. Despite being one of the most recognizable faces in Kandahar, he drives a taxi to make ends meet.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

**HUNGARY**

## Protesters oppose limits on media

Hungary's parliament approved a contentious new law yesterday that will greatly expand the state's power to monitor and penalize private media, drawing protests from opposition parties and civil society.

The measure empowers a recently created new authority, to issue heavy fines for printed, electronic and online media if it determines that coverage is unbalanced, infringes upon human dignity, offends common morals, or fails to cover events of public interest.

However, opposition party Politics Can Be Different said the law would merely cement the government's "media monopoly."

A peaceful demonstration against the new law took place near parliament Monday.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

## Cops probe explosive at mine

A police investigation is underway after an explosive — ammonium nitrate — was poured into the gas tank of a contractor's bulldozer at a Vale mine in Sudbury.

The discovery was made in September after the piece of equipment wouldn't start.

Police are asking anyone with information to come forward.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS**

# When they told me my daughter had a hole in her heart, SickKids kept mine from breaking.

Mom, Kimberly

Kailey, 5 months

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# Vatican issues a clarification

**Pope's comments about condoms and HIV have been mired in confusion ◗ Vatican stresses he was not condoning condom use as a form of contraception**

The Vatican yesterday sought to clarify the Pope's controversial comments about condoms and HIV, saying he by no means suggested condom use could be condoned as a means of avoiding pregnancy.

The Vatican's moral watchdog, the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith, issued a statement yesterday saying some commentators had misunderstood and misrepresented the Pope's remarks in a book-length interview released last month entitled Light of the World.

The Vatican has been under pressure from conservative theologians to issue such a clarification amid widespread confusion about what Pope Benedict XVI meant and whether he was breaking with church teaching.

ALESSANDRA TARANTINO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Pope Benedict XVI

In the book, Benedict said condoms weren't the real or moral solution to battling HIV and AIDS. But he said that condom use in some cases, such as for male prostitutes, could be a first step toward a more moral and responsible human sexuality.

The Vatican statement reaffirmed that the church considered prostitution "gravely immoral."

"However, those involved in prostitution who are HIV-positive and who seek to diminish the risk of contagion by the use of a condom may be taking the first step in respecting the life of another even if the evil of prostitution remains in all its gravity," the statement said.

It insisted that Benedict's statement was "in full conformity with the moral theological tradition of the church."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Obama gets needed votes for arms pact

U.S. President Barack Obama locked up enough Republican votes yesterday to ratify a new arms control treaty with Russia that would cap nuclear warheads for both former Cold War foes and restart on-site weapons inspections.

Eleven Senate Republicans joined Democrats in a 67-28 proxy vote to wind up the debate and hold a final tally today. They broke ranks with the Senate's top two Republicans and were poised to give Obama a victory on his top foreign policy priority.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**"We are on the brink of writing the next chapter in the 40-year history of wrestling with the threat of nuclear weapons."**

JOHN KERRY, FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

NG HAN GUAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Korean conflict**

▶ A tourist in South Korea touches ribbons with messages wishing for reunification of the two Koreas.

## SOUTH KOREA BRACES FOR SURPRISE ATTACK

A destroyer prowled the sea and fighter jets screamed across the skies yesterday as South Korea braced for possible North Korean surprise attacks a day after launching provocative artillery drills on an island the North shelled last month.

North Korea has so far backed off threats to strike the South again for the live-fire military drills on Yeonpyeong Island, a tiny enclave of fishing communities and military bases within sight of North Korean shores.

Similar drills last month triggered a North Korean artillery barrage that killed four South Koreans, including two construction workers, in the first attack targeting civilian areas since the 1950-53 Korean War.

South Korean President Lee Myung-bak, criticized over his handling of last month's attack, has ordered more troops on front-line islands and revamped rules of engagement to allow for a more forceful response.

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# Wireless only is new norm: Study

## Young people leading evolution away from landline phones Shift to cellphones having a wide impact

In a first for any age group, more than half of Americans age 25-29 live in households with cellphones but no traditional landline telephones.

A report on phone use by the U.S. federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention also found that the younger children are, the likelier they are to live in homes that only have wireless phones. That suggests that younger parents are showing increasing comfort relying only on cellphones, even as they adjust from being single to a more settled family lifestyle.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Landline-less

- Overall, 27 per cent of U.S. households had only cellphones in the first half of this year, up two percentage points since the last half of 2009
- Among 25- to 29-year-olds, 51 per cent lived in homes with only cellphone service in the first half of 2010. That was up two percentage points from the previous six-month period.
- For both age groups bracketing them — 18- to 24-year-olds, and 30- to 34-year-olds — four in 10 lived in cell-only households.

**Lunar.** Eclipse

▶ A composite image of the moon during a total lunar eclipse seen from Bobcaygeon, Ont., yesterday.

ADRIEN VECZAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Moon eclipses solstice

**The moon took on a deep red and brownish hue early yesterday as its normal brilliance was obscured by a total lunar eclipse. It occurred on the same night as the winter solstice, which doesn't happen very often. NASA says the last time the two events coincided was in 1638 — 372 years ago.**

# Evacuation delays UN meetings, tours

UN security officials evacuated the buildings where the Security Council and the General Assembly were to meet yesterday, delaying the meetings and public tours because of worries about a strong odour that turned out to be a disruption in the basement sewage system caused by a high tide on the adjacent East River. The landmark 39-storey Secretariat building is currently under renovation.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**"This is not a hazard, there were gases released by the sewage but it is not harmful. Public tours and General Assembly meetings should be able to resume by tomorrow."**

FARHAN HAQ,
UN DEPUTY SPOKESMAN

# Nativity scene paintballed

Police in Essex, Ont., are looking for vandals who shot paintballs at a church nativity scene. Provincial police say a nativity scene protected by Plexiglas was shot at by paintballs and covered with yellow paint.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### Vandals sought

- The staff also noticed someone had tampered with some of the church doors. Police say it appeared to be a break-and-enter setup, with items shoved in the holes of church door catches that would allow someone to pull the door open from outside. Police are asking anyone with information to contact them.

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# Putin signals restrictions on migration

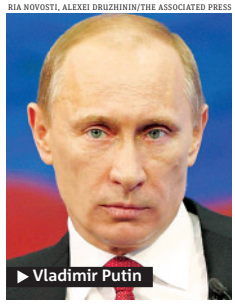
**Curbs aimed at mainly Muslim southern Caucasus region Russians already need to log in some movements**

Russians may face new restrictions when trying to move from the provinces to Moscow, St. Petersburg or other large cities, Prime Minister Vladimir Putin signalled yesterday.

Putin portrayed the move as a way to cut down on ethnic violence in the streets, but Kremlin critics say those tensions are being fanned deliberately as a pretext to introduce repressive legislation ahead of Russia's 2012 presidential election.

Ethnic tensions have been simmering since the death of a Slavic soccer fan during a fight with southern people from the Caucasus earlier this month. Racist hooligans reacted by conducting violent protests

RIA NOVOSTI, ALEXEI DRUZHININ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ Vladimir Putin

chanting "Russia for Russians!" and other slogans near the Kremlin, and police have arrested thousands of people since then to keep a lid on further unrest.

Putin appealed to soccer fans in Moscow yesterday to distance themselves from any ultranationalists and announced the possible measures, ostensibly to combat ethnic violence.

"If we don't respect each other, what are we to do? We will have to perfect, to put it mildly, registration rules in territories of the country, especially in big centres — in Moscow, St. Petersburg and other main cities," Putin said.

President Dmitry Medvedev met with law enforcement officials a day after hundreds of people were arrested last week trying to hold ultranationalist rallies, and announced that participation in unauthorized protests should be punishable by incarceration rather than a fine.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Guinea's first elected leader sworn in

The man considered Guinea's first democratically elected leader has been sworn into office.

Alpha Conde, a 72-year-old Sorbonne university professor who has spent most of his adult life in France, was inaugurated as president yesterday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Census says U.S. is growing

ScanLife

Republican-leaning states to pick up half a dozen House seats. Scan code for the story.

## BC Ferries CEO pay quadrupled

Newly-released documents show the earnings of BC Ferries CEO David Hahn more than quadrupled from 2003, when the corporation became semi-private, to 2009.

Documents show Hahn was paid $228,239 when he was hired in 2003, but by last year his total earnings had soared to $984,248. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# The 12 Days of Christmas sale!

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SENATE COMMITTEE

## Lighthouse staff still needed: Report

A Senate committee that travelled to two provinces to study lighthouse operations in the country is recommending Ottawa continue staffing the facilities for now.

The committee says the Department of Fisheries should halt its lighthouse destaffing plan and suggests future staffing decisions should be made on a case-by-case basis.

It says guidelines and consultations are needed to determine whether keepers should be maintained in Newfoundland and Labrador and British Columbia.

Senator Bill Rompkey, chair of the committee, said they were unanimously recommending continued staffing after hearing overwhelming support for lighthouse personnel on both coasts.

Fisheries Minister Gail Shea announced the review and stalled plans to remove lighthouse keepers amid fierce criticism last year, as some argued the move would cost lives at sea.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Yoga studios offering free classes to jobless

JAY LAPRETE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Instructor Zack Lynn leads a class at the Yoga on High yoga centre in Columbus, Ohio.

- Breathing exercises cut stress
- Sessions also good for networking

Some yoga studios in the United States are offering their own jobless benefit: Free classes.

With national unemployment just less than 10 per cent, $20 yoga classes don't qualify as necessities for many unemployed people who have pruned luxuries from their budgets.

So, now, in studios in New York, Columbus, Ohio, and other cities, former managers, laid-off limo drivers and other jobless people can turn to downward dog, lotus or other yoga positions to ease the stress of being out of work.

Some yogis — like Zack Lynn in Ohio — say they don't want unemployed people to have to choose between food and yoga.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# Inflation falls from October's 2.4% high

- Consumer prices edged up slightly, by 0.1%, from Oct. to Nov.
- Jump was 0.4% from Sept. to Oct.

The pace of inflation in Canada eased to two per cent last month as the prices of most consumer goods either saw a moderation in growth or outright declines from last year.

Statistics Canada said the dip in the annual consumer price index reverses most of October's gains, when inflation rose to a two-year high of 2.4 per cent.

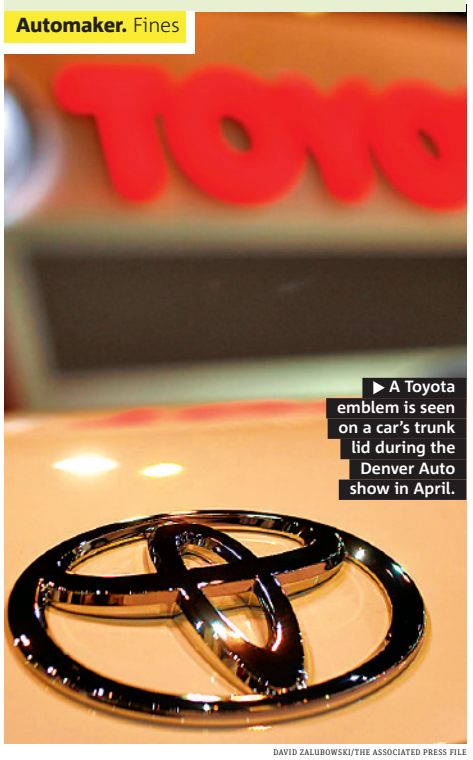
The agency said prices of many key items it tracks, including food, gasoline, electricity and homeowner replacement costs, rose in November but not as much as the previous month. Some goods, such as vegetables, clothing, non-alcoholic beverages and mortgage interest all cost less than they did last year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

**City by city**

Statistics Canada also released inflation rates for major cities (previous month in brackets):

- Ottawa, 3.1 (3.3)
- Toronto, 3.0 (3.2)
- Vancouver, 2.6 (3.0)
- Saskatoon, 1.9 (1.9)
- Halifax, 2.1 (2.8)
- Winnipeg, 1.1 (1.2)
- Montreal, 1.0 (1.4)
- Edmonton, 0.2 (1.2)
- Calgary, 0.0 (0.8)

**Automaker.** Fines



▶ A Toyota emblem is seen on a car's trunk lid during the Denver Auto show in April.

DAVID ZALUBOWSKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

## Toyota to pay piper

**Toyota Motor Corp. yesterday agreed to pay the U.S. government a record $32.4 million in additional fines to settle an investigation into its handling of two recalls at the heart of its safety crisis.**

## Quebec raises minimum wage

**292K** Labour Minister Lise Theriault says about 292,000 Quebec workers, especially women, will benefit from the minimum wage increase.

Quebec is increasing its minimum wage by 15 cents per hour to $9.65, effective May 1.

Labour Minister Lise Theriault also said employees earning tips will see their hourly wages rise 10 cents to a minimum of $8.35 per hour.

Since 2002, Quebec's minimum wage has increased 30 per cent, compared with a 13 per cent rise in the consumer price index. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Bank buys automaker's lending business

TD Bank has finalized a deal to buy Chrysler Financial from U.S. private equity firm Cerberus for $6.3 billion in a bid to grow its auto-lending business across North America.

The Canadian bank said it bought the former lending division of the U.S. automaker as part of an investment strategy for the $80 billion worth of assets currently held by its U.S. banking arm. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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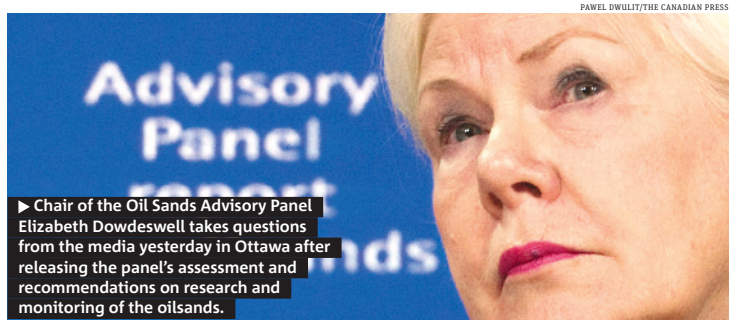


▶ Chair of the Oil Sands Advisory Panel Elizabeth Dowdeswell takes questions from the media yesterday in Ottawa after releasing the panel's assessment and recommendations on research and monitoring of the oilsands.

# Oilsands checks lame, panel finds

## Baird promises quick action from Ottawa Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach wants province to take the lead

Environment Minister John Baird says he will move quickly to set up a world-class, environmental monitoring system for the Alberta oilsands after a high-level advisory panel said there is a sorry lack of credible data on the environmental impact of the oilsands.

That's because monitoring now is done by a "fragmented" array of authorities and groups, with no established baselines for comparisons and no overarching, integrated view of the entire ecosystem, panel chairwoman Elizabeth Dowdeswell said at a news conference. "There is clearly a lack of leadership and co-ordination," said Dowdeswell, former head of the United Nations environment program.

In a report released yesterday, the panel recommended a new system be set up to establish baselines, collect all the relevant data, and refer it to a group of renowned scientists for review. The industry's future depends on having a credible system in place, the panel said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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# TD's planned acquisition boosts market

**Bank says buying Chrysler's old financing arm for $6.3B will help it grow its consumer loans portfolio**

The Toronto stock market closed sharply higher yesterday as another major acquisition in the Canadian financial sector raised hopes for a strong economic rebound and more such dealmaking.

The financial sector ran ahead 1.6 per cent after TD Bank said it is buying Chrysler Financial, the automaker's old lending arm, from U.S. private equity firm Cerberus Capital for $6.3 billion.

Its shares rose $2.64, or 3.74 per cent, to $73.16 as the bank also said it will not issue additional stock to pay for the purchase.

"It's a confidence booster when you see very large deals," said Kathryn Delgreco, investment adviser at TD Waterhouse.

"Merger and acquisition activity is a very prominent thing to see develop as you're coming out of recession as those companies that are strong, their balance sheets are in good condition, they look for opportunities to deploy cash. And that's exactly what we've seen happen with TD Bank, Bank of Montreal."

BMO said Friday it was buying U.S. lender Marshall & Ilsley Corp. for $4.1 billion in stock.

Research firm Dealogic said corporate deals have totalled $2.7 trillion US so far this year, up 18 per cent compared with all of 2009. THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Market moment**

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. YESTERDAY

| TSX | Dollar |
|---|---|
| + 171.87 (13,365.15) | – 0.11¢ (98.28¢ US) |
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# STUFF THIS RESEARCH IN A STOCKING

**Just sayin'**

**PAUL SULLIVAN**

**'Tis a few days before Christmas and the Grinch is on the prowl.**

Turns out the Grinch is a team at Simon Fraser University that has published the following anti-Christmas research: "Identity moderates the effects of Christmas displays on mood, self-esteem, and inclusion."

According to the professors and their grad student Grinch accomplices, their research shows that "the pervasive presence of Christmas displays in December makes people who do not celebrate Christmas feel like they don't belong, and it harms their emotional well-being."

For those of us struggling to breathe under a seasonal avalanche of Bing Crosby, this is nothing new, but the closer you look at the actual experiment, the more you have to ask: Don't these guys have anything better to do?

Here's what they did — they put one group of students in a lab decorated with a 12-inch Christmas tree and another group in a lab with no tree. Then they asked them how they felt.

Subjects didn't know they were in a study on the psychological effects of Christmas trees, but were asked to fill out a questionnaire about their mood.

Moods varied depending on the presence of the tree and the background of the respondents. In the presence of the tree, Sikh and Buddhist respondents felt less sure about themselves and felt excluded from the university. Christian students reported a more positive mood.

Putting aside questions about the research (maybe 12-inch plastic trees are culturally depressing. Maybe Sikh and Buddhist students require much bigger trees to feel good?), this just encourages the brand of self-righteousness that blights the yuletide season annually.

Some killjoy kicks Christmas out of the mall in case someone might feel excluded.

And now they've got research to back them up. "Studies show …" they'll proclaim, ignoring the fact it's one study and one tree.

I wonder what would happen if the team put its subjects through the Halloween test. Or the Thanksgiving test.

At some level, they're all religious festivals, but they are also festivals.

I'm in favour of festivals. Thanks to multiculturalism, we keep adding them to the calendar: Hanukkah; Kwanzaa; Diwali; Narooz. If we keep this up, we can have a parade every day of the year. And how good is that?

The point is to use festivals to include people, not exclude them. We all believe different things, but if there's one belief that unites us all, it's simply this: Festivals are fun.

So, without prejudice, I offer the following greeting: Merry Christmas! (And happy holidays to everyone, even professors).

*Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsaying*

**Cartoon**

MICHAEL DE ADDER

# Giving the gift of life

**Letters & Tweets**

**TORONTO**. The holidays are a special time of year, a time to gather with loved ones and build lasting memories.

As we head into the holiday season, I find myself thinking how different my story could have been.

A few years ago, I was expecting twins — my second pregnancy — and like my first it was complicated and high-risk.

On our scheduled delivery day, my husband and I had everything planned. We knew it would be a lot of work; we didn't know how hard that day was really going to be.

We went into the operating room for the scheduled C-section and expected to come out an hour or so later with our twins. But I started losing blood as soon as the surgery began and my husband was escorted out of the operating room. I was hemorrhaging and needed blood immediately.

I lost more than four litres — the human body carries five to six litres — and I needed four litres of whole blood, eight platelet transfusions and four units of plasma to help me survive.

**Time to donate**

CONTRIBUTED

During the procedure, a nursing consultant gently told my husband that things had taken a turn for the worse and asked if there was anyone to call. That is when he knew how serious things were.

Luckily, everything worked out. I didn't meet the twins until they were about six days old because I was so ill. Without the generosity and selflessness of blood donors, my three children would not have their mother today.

I know the holidays are a very busy time. But please remember my story and find the time to donate blood on behalf of someone you love. Donate blood. It's the gift that saves lives. It saved me.

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# Metro Minute at the Outer Layer

You've got your gifts for the folks, your co-workers, and you finally cracked the matrix code the significant other has been leaving since summer. (Thank you, eBay!)

But there's still that remote cousin you haven't seen since junior high, and for whom you have absolutely no idea how to shop. He's the one who "accidentally" punched you in the face when reaching for the eggnog and everyone laughed and laughed. Remember?

Now it's your turn to tell him how you really feel with a brilliantly itemized gift from Outer Layer. The hilarious, irreverent novelty items will sum up what you've wanted to say for the past decade. And everyone will laugh and laugh. **JORDANA DIVON**

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▶ The Outer Layer's two locations are bursting with both humorous and awesome gift ideas for everyone on your list. Check outerlayer.com for directions and more.

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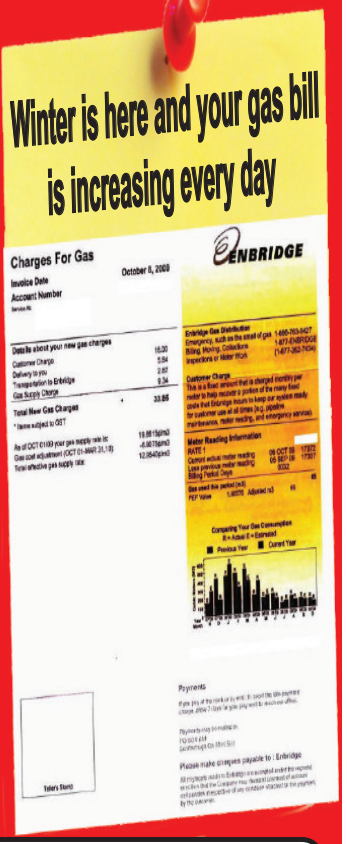


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TODD PLITT/ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTO, DISCOVERY CHANNEL

▶ Ben Bailey, host of the mobile game show, Cash Cab, stands next to a cab. The show is heading to Chicago next spring.

# Cash Cab drives on to streets of Chicago

**A game show on four wheels that is able to compete creatively with longtime studio favourites Jeopardy! and Wheel of Fortune**

The Discovery Network show that turns a New York City cab ride into an instant game show is launching a spinoff version based in Chicago next spring. Comic Beth Melewski, a Second City cast member, will be behind the wheel.

The expansion comes after a triumphant year for Cash Cab. The series, itself a remake of a British TV's similar game based in London, won its second Daytime Emmy award for best game show. Ben Bailey won his first Emmy as best host.

**"It's everything that people thought it would be. It's a validation and credit for hard work."**
**BEN BAILEY, CASH CAB**

The idea for the Chicago version came when Bailey did a handful of tapings in Las Vegas, some that included entertainers such as Carrot Top playing for charity, and Discovery recognized how a new city with new people and new sites could give Cash Cab an entirely different feel, said Clark Bunting, Discovery's CEO.

Bunting is from Michigan, and he wanted to get the Midwest involved. Chicago, a city similar to New York with many cabs, seemed like it could work in a way that Los Angeles, for example, couldn't since there's relatively little cab use.

Melewski had the combination of smarts and knowledge of her city to work well in the cab, he said.

"Beth feels real-deal Chicago," he said. "You've got to have, for these shows at least, a feel for the city." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

**How it works**

**Contestants are asked a series of trivia questions that get increasingly harder as the ride goes on**

- **Prize** They can win $25, $50 and $100 US in increments.
- **Going double** Baily often prompts players to go double-or-nothing, and one rider walked out with $6,200.
- **Limitations** Game ends when a player reaches the destination or gets three answers wrong.

# Spider Man actor falls 30 feet on Broadway musical set

The troubled Broadway musical Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark was plagued by its fourth accident since it began previews last month when an actor performing an aerial stunt fell about 30 feet, fire officials said.

Firefighters were called to the Foxwoods Theatre in New York at about 10:45 p.m. Monday after the 31-year-old actor fell near the end of the latest preview performance.

He was taken to Bellevue Hospital with minor injuries, police said.

Police did not release the actor's name, but a performer in the show identified him as Christopher Tierney.

The performer spoke on condition of anonymity because the performer was not authorized to speak publicly about the accident.

A nurse at Bellevue Hospital said that a Christopher Tierney was admitted and was in stable condition, but would not provide details.

**"Please pray with me for my friend Chris, my superhero who quietly inspires me everday.**
**NATALIE MENDOZA, ACTOR**

Actress Natalie Mendoza, who plays Spider-Man's evil love interest Arachne was injured during the show's first preview last month. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

KATHY WILLENS/ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTO

▶ A Spider-Man banner covering the front of Foxwoods Theater in New York.

2 scene

## Scene in brief

30 Rock star Tracy Morgan is recovering from a kidney transplant.

A statement released Monday by Morgan's publicist says Morgan is doing well and taking much-needed time to recover from the surgery earlier this month.

The statement says the actor-comedian looks forward to returning to work on the New York-based NBC TV comedy after the holidays.

The 42-year-old Morgan plays the goofy star of a TV show on 30 Rock. Another 30 Rock cast member, Grizz Chapman, also received a new kidney earlier this year. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Hustling Miami video director earns praise

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## DOWNTOWN

### SCOTIABANK THEATRE
259 Richmond St., 416-368-5600

**Little Fockers** (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 12:30-3:10-6:20-9 No Passes Wed-Thu 11:20-2:10-5-7:40-10:30 No Passes Wed-Thu 1:20-4:10-7-9:50

### MARKET SQUARE
80 Front St., 416-494-9371

**Little Fockers** (PG) Wed-Thu 12:30-4:05-7:10-9:35
**True Grit** (14A) Wed-Thu 12:50-3:30-6:50-9:25

### VARSITY
55 Bloor St. W., 416-961-6304

**Little Fockers** (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 1-3:50-6:40-9:30
**True Grit** (14A) No Passes Wed-Thu 12:40-3:40-6:50-9:50 No Passes Wed-Thu 1:15-4:05-7:05-9:35

### YONGE-EGLINTON CENTRE
2300 Yonge St., 416-544-1236

**Little Fockers** (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 12-3-6:45-9:45
**True Grit** (14A) No Passes Wed-Thu 1:30-4:45-7:30-10:15

## WEST END

### QUEENSWAY
1025 The Queensway, 416-503-0424

**Little Fockers** (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 12:30-1:10-1:50-3:20-4-4:40-6:20-7-7:40-9:15-10-10:40
**True Grit** (14A) No Passes Wed-Thu 12:45-3:45-6:40-9:45

### WOODBINE CENTRE
500 Rexdale Blvd., 416-213-1998

**Little Fockers** (PG) Wed-Thu 12:30-2:45-5-7:15-9:25
**True Grit** (14A) Wed-Thu 1:20-4:15-7:20-9:45

## EAST END

### BEACH CINEMAS
1651 Queen St. E., 416-699-5971

**Little Fockers** (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 1-4:30-7:40-10:30

## NORTH YORK

### SHEPPARD GRANDE
4861 Yonge St., 416-590-9974

**Little Fockers** (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 1-1:40-4-4:40-7-7:40-10-10:30

### EMPRESS WALK
5095 Yonge St., 416-223-9550

**True Grit** (14A) Stadium Seating, No Passes Wed-Thu 1:15-3:50-6:40-7:30-9:25-10:15

### SILVERCITY YORKDALE 6
3401 Dufferin St., 416-444-3456

**Little Fockers** (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 1:10-4-6:50-9:50
**True Grit** (14A) No Passes Wed-Thu 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:15

### SILVERCITY FAIRVIEW
1800 Sheppard Ave. E., 416-644-7746

**Little Fockers** (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 2-4:40-7:20-10
**True Grit** (14A) No Passes Wed-Thu 1-4:10-6:50-9:40

## SCARBOROUGH

### COLISEUM SCARBOROUGH
300 Borough Dr., 416-290-5217

**Little Fockers** (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 1:15-1:30-4:05-4:20-7:10-7:45-10:10-10:35 No Passes Wed-Thu 12:45-3:45-7:20-10:25

### EGLINTON TOWN CENTRE
1901 Eglinton Ave. E., 416-752-4494

**Little Fockers** (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 12:50-1:40-3:40-4:40-6:20-7:20-9:10-10
**True Grit** (14A) No Passes Wed-Thu 12:45-3:45-6:40-9:55

### 401 & MORNINGSIDE
785 Milner Ave., 416-281-2226

**Little Fockers** (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 12:40-3:20-6:45-9:20
**True Grit** (14A) No Passes Wed-Thu 2-4:45-7:50-10:25

### KENNEDY COMMONS 20
33 William Kitchen Rd., 416-335-5323

**True Grit** (14A) SDDS Digital, Special Engagement Wed 12:05-1:45-2:45-4:25-5:25-7:05-8:05-9:45-10:45 SDDS Digital, Special Engagement Thu 11:05-12:05-1:45-2:45-4:25-5:25-7:05-8:05-9:45-10:45

## PEEL REGION

### COLISEUM 10
309 Rathburn Rd., 905-275-3456

**Little Fockers** (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 11:20-12:10-1:45-3:10-4:45-6:30-7:45-9:15-10:20 No Passes Wed-Thu 12:45-3:45-7-9:45
**True Grit** (14A) No Passes Wed-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:40-10:25

### COURTNEY PARK 16
110 Courtney Park Dr., 905-362-1210

**Little Fockers** (PG) Special Engagement Wed-Thu 1:30-2:45-3:50-5:10-6:10-7:35-8:35-9:55-10:55
**True Grit** (14A) Special Engagement Wed-Thu 2:35-5:20-8:10-10:45

### ORION GATE GRANDE
20 Biscayne Cr., 905-455-1590

**Little Fockers** (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 1:30-4:15-7:25-10
**True Grit** (14A) No Passes Wed-Thu 1:40-4:25-7:15-10:10

### SILVERCITY BRAMPTON
50 Great Lakes, 905-789-6797

**Little Fockers** (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 12:30-1:20-3:45-4:30-6:40-7:30-9:30-10:20
**True Grit** (14A) No Passes Wed-Thu 1-4-7-10

### SILVERCITY MISSISSAUGA
3055 Vega Blvd., 905-569-3373

**True Grit** (14A) No Passes Wed-Thu 12:45-3:30-6:30-9:15 No Passes Wed-Thu 1:50-4:40-7:40-10:20

## NORTH

### AURORA CINEMAS
15460 Bayview Ave., 905-841-1789

**Little Fockers** (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 1:20-4-6:50-9:50
**True Grit** (14A) No Passes Wed-Thu 1:30-4:20-7:30-10:20

### COLOSSUS 19
3555 Hwy 7 West, 905-851-1001

**Little Fockers** (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 12:15-1-1:45-3:15-4-4:45-6:20-7-7:45-9:20-10-10:45
**True Grit** (14A) No Passes Wed-Thu 12:45-1:30-3:40-4:20-7:05-7:40-9:55-10:40

### ELGIN MILLS 10
10909 Yonge St., 905-770-6998

**Little Fockers** (PG) Wed-Thu 12:50-4-6:50-9:45
**True Grit** (14A) Wed-Thu 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:30

### FIRST MARKHAM PLACE
3275 Hwy 7 E., 905-474-5101

**Little Fockers** (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 12:40-3:30-6:45-9:30
**True Grit** (14A) No Passes Wed-Thu 1:40-4:40-7:30-10:20

### PROMENADE MALL
1 Promenade Circle, 416-494-9371

**Little Fockers** (PG) Wed-Thu 12:45-2:55-5:15-7:25-9:35
**True Grit** (14A) Wed-Thu 1:10-3:50-6:45-9:20

### SILVERCITY NEWMARKET
18151 Yonge St., 905-953-2792

**Little Fockers** (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 1:30-4:15-7:10
**True Grit** (14A) No Passes Wed-Thu 1:40-4:30-7:30-10:25

### SILVERCITY RICHMOND HILL
8771 Yonge St., 905-709-3199

**Little Fockers** (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 12:20-1:10-3:4:20-6:40-7:30-9:20-10:20
**True Grit** (14A) No Passes Wed-Thu 1:30-4:10-7:20-9:55

## HALTON

### GALAXY CINEMAS MILTON
1175 Maple Ave., 905-864-1666

**Little Fockers** (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 12:45-3:45-7:15-10:05
**True Grit** (14A) No Passes Wed-Thu 12-3:20-6:40-10

### SILVERCITY BURLINGTON 8
1250 Brant St., 416-646-0444

**Little Fockers** (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 1-4-6:40-9:50
**True Grit** (14A) No Passes Wed-Thu 1:40-4:30-7:25-10:05

### SILVERCITY OAKVILLE
3531 Wycroft Road, 905 827-7173

**Little Fockers** (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 1:50-4:40-7:40-10:30 No Passes Wed-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30
**True Grit** (14A) No Passes Wed-Thu 1:10-4:20-7:20-10

### WINSTON CHURCHILL
2081 Winston Park Dr., Oakville, 905-829-2009

**Little Fockers** (PG) Special Engagement Wed-Thu 11:10-11:55-12:40-1:40-2:25-3:10-4:10-4:55-5:40-6:40-7:25-8:10-9:10-9:55-10:40

## DURHAM

### AJAX
248 Kingston Rd. E, 905-426-7772

**Little Fockers** (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 12:05-3-7:05-10:10
**True Grit** (14A) No Passes Wed-Thu 12:20-3:40-7:15-10

### PICKERING 8
1355 Kingston Rd., 416-646-0444

**Little Fockers** (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 12:30-3:30-7:10
**True Grit** (14A) No Passes Wed-Thu 1-3:50-7:30-10:15

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**Movie review** See it twice ●●●●● | See it now ●●●● | Worth watching ●●● | Yawn ●● | Don't bother ●

# Coens do justice to True Grit

**True Grit**
**Genre:** Western
**Directors:** Ethan Coen, Joel Coen
**Stars:** Jeff Bridges, Matt Damon and Hailee Steinfeld
●●●●½

Perhaps only artists as visionary and celebrated as The Coen Brothers would dare remake a film as beloved as True Grit and not be met with a tsunami of bile. The original 1969 picture (itself just re-released on Blu ray) starred John Wayne in the role that won him a much belated Oscar and was perhaps the last gasp of the classic, Ford/Hawks steeped mythic American western before the ultra-violent influence of the Italian "spaghetti western" consumed the genre.

Wisely, the Coen's have decided not to reproduce or "reinvent" it but rather go back to the source on which it was based, Charles Portis's novel. The resulting picture is nothing short of a joy to behold.

This time, instead of The Duke we have Jeff Bridges at his craggy, curmudgeonly best as lone wolf Marshall Rueben "Rooster" Cogburn, who when he's not defending his latest righteous kill in a court of law, sleeps his booze soaked self away in a cot behind a Chinese restaurant.

Into his sagebrush dusted life comes 14 year old Mattie Ross (Hailee Steinfeld), who secures Cogburn to hunt the villain that killed her father and bring 'em back alive. Also adhered to their adventure is the preening, over-his-head Ranger LeBoef (Matt Damon) who also wants to get his mitts on the same murderer so he can hang him for his crimes in Texas.

That's pretty much the story but narrative contrivance isn't what makes True Grit such a heart swelling, eye filling delight. It's a mixture of spot-on, giddy performances both lead and supporting; the delicate, lonely but never oppressive cinematography by Roger Deakins; Carter Burwell's aching and melancholy score that uses the hymn Leaning on the Everlasting Arms and most importantly, it's The Coen's ace direction, milking mirth and rugged poetry out of every second of screen time. A gentle, rambling treasure of a film. ● CHRIS ALEXANDER

# Little fun from Little Fockers

**Little Fockers**
**Genre:** Comedy
**Director:** Paul Weitz
**Stars:** Ben Stiller, Robert De Niro, Owen Wilson
●

A once mildly amusing comedy is now an insufferable franchise brought to new lows with Little Fockers. Not since It's A Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World have so many stars combined forces to create easily the worst film of their careers.

Once again an anxious Ben Stiller is put at odds his former CIA father in-law Robert De Niro, who now hopes that Stiller can take over the family patriarchal reigns as The Godfocker, but is concerned that he's having an affair with a cute little drug rep named Andi Garcia (Jessica Alba). Those two terrible puns represent the best jokes in the movie and are repeated ad nauseam to ensure that you won't find them funny by the end credits.

The Fockers (Barbara Streisand and Dustin Hoffman) pop up on the sidelines hosting a sex chat show and learning flamingo moves in Spain respectively, while Owen Wilson returns as a wealthy family friend with eyes for Stiller's wife. All the subplots and characters kind of connect in a climax, but the hastily constructed screenplay is too haphazard to form anything resembling a narrative. The only reason to buy a ticket for Little Fockers is to line the bank accounts of all of the celebrities involved in time for Christmas. Don't fall into the trap. This isn't a movie. It's a Focking disgrace.

● PHIL BROWN

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metro
News worth sharing.

# Lindsay under investigation

**Lohan has been undergoing treatment at the Betty Ford Center and its facilities since September**

Lindsay Lohan is under investigation for an alleged misdemeanour battery against a female staffer at a rehab facility where the actress is receiving treatment, authorities said yesterday.

Riverside County sheriff's Deputy Herlinda Valenzuela said officers responded to a Betty Ford Center facility in Palm Desert on Dec. 12 shortly after 1 a.m. for an incident involving Lohan.

Valenzuela says a female staffer reported having a dispute with the Mean Girls star and that she wanted to pursue charges. No arrests were made and Valenzuela says detectives continue to look into the case.

Their results will be presented to Riverside County prosecutors, who will decide whether to file a criminal case, Valenzuela said.

Messages for Lohan's attorney were not returned. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

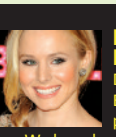
Lindsay Lohan

## Celebrity tweets

**Chris Brown**
i have enough self respect and decency to be proud of accomplishing this DV class. Boyz run from there mistakes. Men learn from them!!!

**Steve Martin**
REPORT FROM JURY DUTY: guy I thought was up for murder turns out to be defense attorney. I bet he murdered someone anyway.

**Kirstie Alley**
What do I want for Christmas you ask...I want Sanity and Wisdom..what do you want?



**Kristen Bell**
Dear Europe, please let us go. We have been very good this year and we are very homesick. Love, us

# Are Miller and Law getting ready to get hitched?

Jude Law and Sienna Miller are reportedly so happy together that the couple are again talking marriage — and maybe as soon as within the next two weeks.

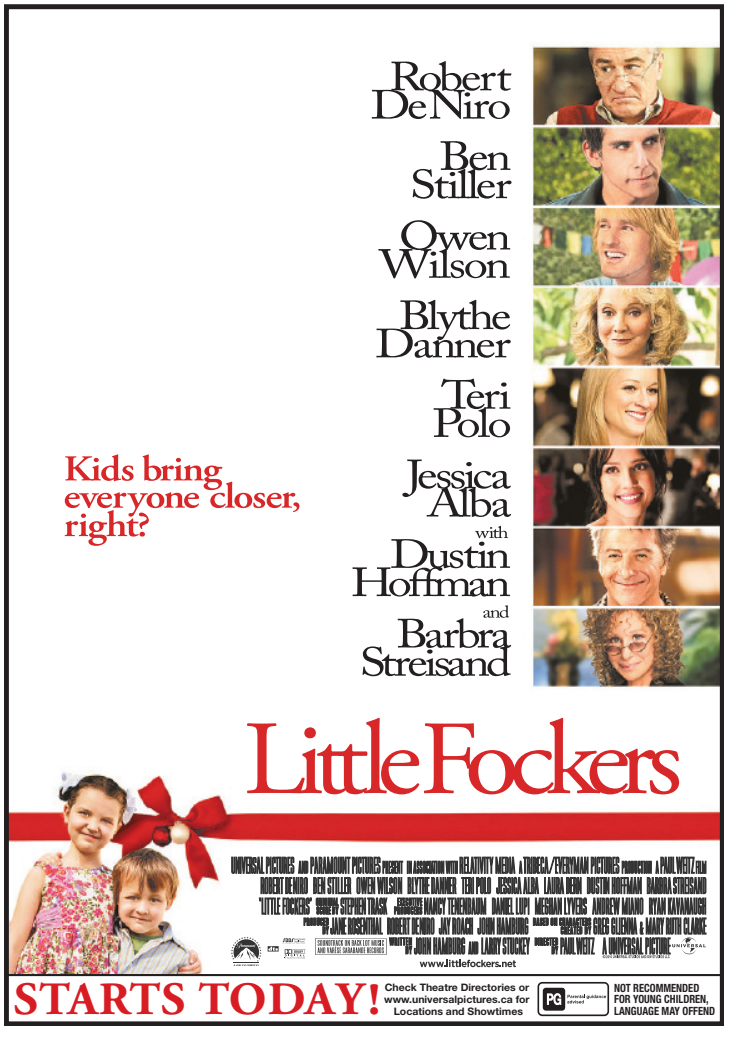
Miller's sister, Savannah Miller confirms to the Daily Mail that the couple have been talking marriage recently, while another source says they may even tie the knot over New Year's in a quiet ceremony.

The pair were previously engaged in 2005 before his cheating scandal forced her to call it off. METRO

## News in brief

### A very Cowell Christmas

**GIFTS.** British X-Factor judge Louis Walsh reveals that Simon Cowell got all the show's judges the same gift this year: a massive Botox gift certificate. "On the final he says, 'I've got a present for you three,' and he gives us envelopes," Walsh tells Sharon Osbourne during a TV interview. "I got home and opened [it] — it's [$4,500] worth of Botox." METRO



KEVIN HUTCHINSON

▶ If you're looking for private beaches surrounded by gorgeous scenery, get away from the big resorts and try Mexico's smaller towns.

# Small-town Mexico

**Southeast of Acapulco, Huatulco is uncluttered and uncrowded This burgeoning resort town is close to no less than 36 untouched beaches**

## THE TRAVELLIN' CANADIAN

DARREN PARKMAN
TRAVEL@METRONEWS.CA

If you're tired of all those massive Mexican resort towns away from the popular bars and beaches, then small-town Huatulco might just be the perfect place for you.

This burgeoning West Coast resort area southeast of Acapulco is being built from the ground up by the Mexican government, with only about 15 luxury resort hotels surrounded by nine small bays.

That lack of clutter makes for no less than 36 stunning, private, untouched beaches, all around gorgeous scenery you can't find in many Mexican resort towns anymore. Of course, the surrounding natural habitat is all the more wild and untouched, making for some unique adventures.

Finding myself a few hours north of the coast, I felt like I was in the middle of the Amazon. During a gondola ride on secluded La Ventanilla Lagoon, the iguanas, turtles and tropical birds were plentiful, and so were 10-foot-plus crocodiles nudging by our little wooden vessel.

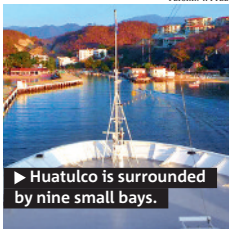
The area is also home to the Mexican turtle centre, where baby sea turtles are hatched and released regularly.

Another hidden treasure worth visiting lies tucked away in the mountains about two hours away from the coast.

The so-called Magic Water Falls are not only beautiful, but legend has it if you bathe in these remote mystical waters, they will magically erase wrinkles and instantly restore a youthful appearance.

If you want to beat the crowds to this obscure paradise, better do it soon. Over the next decade, there are plans to add 10 times the number of hotel rooms to accommodate two million tourists a year.

FLICKR: WYTZE



▶ Huatulco is surrounded by nine small bays.

### What to do

**Visit the Tipsy Blowfish.** Located in quiet La Crucecita, this is one of the funkiest bars in all of Mexico. Take in great live music and easygoing small-town culture in a funky outdoor environment. Be sure to ask owner Texas Joe for some of the coldest beer in town.

**Go on a Mexican Outback Safari.** One of the newest attractions in Huatulco, this eco-adventure takes you to the heart of the tropical jungle and into far-removed villages. You'll cross mangroves and taste tropical fruit, and cap it off with some snorkelling in the remote fishing village of San Augustin.

## 3 life

### Travel in brief

A new Disney resort will open in phases, starting in May 2012.

The hotel will feature about 2,000 rooms, including 865 standard hotel rooms in Disney's "value" category. Another 1,120 will be suites.

The first phase will be a Finding Nemo-themed wing of suites. Another wing in the Lion King theme will follow. The final phase will feature the Little Mermaid theme.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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| Punta Cana, Dominican Republic | Ja-05 Ja-12 | Ja-12 Ja-19 | Ja-19 Ja-26 | Ja-26 Fe-02 | Fe-02 Fe-09 | Fe-09 Fe-16 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bahia Principe Punta Cana (4+) | 1267 | 1267 | 1287 | 1401 | 1320 | 1420 |
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| Barcelo Bavaro Casino (3+) | 1059 | 1045 | 1135 | 1125 | 1145 | 1185 |
| Barcelo Bavaro Palace (4) | 1227 | 1275 | 1312 | 1396 | 1316 | 1416 |
| Barcelo Dominican Beach (3+) | 1122 | 1145 | 1180 | 1225 | 1180 | 1270 |
| Barcelo Punta Cana (4) | 1092 | 1092 | 1102 | 1222 | 1122 | 1222 |

Our 'grid' is the fastest way to find the best travel prices at a glance

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Prices shown are not current, please visit our website for up-to-date rates.

**If watching James Franco in director Danny Boyle's latest flick 127 Hours has inspired you to embark on a hiking adventure of your own (albeit a safer one), head to Moab, Utah, where the movie was filmed ● Most trails in Arches National Park don't require a guide, but the scenic Fiery Furnace isn't for beginners**

JENNIFER GRAHAM/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Hiking the Fiery Furnace trail in Arches National Park.

JENNIFER GRAHAM/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Skyline Arch in Arches National Park.

JENNIFER GRAHAM/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Columns of red rock tower overhead on the Fiery Furnace trail.

# Utah's Fiery Furnace isn't a stroll in the park

Columns of red rock tower overhead as hikers, almost as nimble as Spider-Man, scramble over the sandstone and squeeze through narrow passages.

As the website for Arches National Park in Utah says, this is "not a casual stroll." It's the Fiery Furnace.

"It's not a hike that's for everyone," says Jim Blazik, information specialist at park headquarters in Moab, about eight kilometres from Arches.

"There are several places where it's very, very narrow. You don't have a base to walk on, where your footing is basically on rock on either side of you ... where you need both hands and arms to help you through certain places."

Despite such obstacles, the popular three-hour hike through the maze of the Fiery Furnace is considered only moderately strenuous. There are plenty of ups and downs but no big changes in elevation.

There are a few spots where hikers have to jump over cracks or move by holding themselves off the ground, pushing against the sandstone walls with their hands and feet. And some might need a hand across a couple of gaps.

Hikers can go on their own but they need a permit and must first watch a short video covering safety and resource concerns.

The best way to see the Fiery Furnace is on one of the ranger-guided hikes, offered twice each day from March through October.

But most of the trails in Arches National Park don't require a guide. The trail to Double Arch is an easy round-trip walk along a flat, sandy trail that leads to the base of two giant arch spans joined at one end.

Arches National Park has more than 2,000 natural sandstone arches but Blazik says it's about more than holes in the rock.

"It is a geological park but that's not all that's there by any stretch of the imagination," says Blazik.

"Sometimes just being knocked out of your socks just out of the beauty of the place is all people really care about."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## If you go...

- **The entrance** to the park is located 8 km north of Moab along Highway 191.
- **Commercial airlines** serve Grand Junction, Colo., and Salt Lake City. By car, these cities are two and four hours respectively from the park entrance.
- **The entrance fee** is $10 US per vehicle and is good for seven days.
- **The Fiery Furnace** ranger-guided hike is $10 for adults and $5 for children.
- **Make a reservation at** nps.gov/arch/index.htm

# Top travel reads for women

**Three books to give the traveler in your life this holiday season**

ISTOCK

Some people love not knowing where they're going.

# Put the mystery into vacations

Blindfolded and 2,400 kilometres from home, 70-year-old Paul White was being driven along a twisting mountain road to an unknown destination.

No, it wasn't a kidnapping, or even a mystery novel. It was a mystery vacation. From the moment White left his house in East Sandwich, Mass., until well into the 15-day vacation his wife spent two years planning, he didn't know where he'd be going or what he'd be doing.

The same thing happened to Heather and Brian Cornwell of Jacksonville, Fla., after her father arranged a 10-day "scavenger hunt" vacation as a wedding gift. Ditto for the hundreds of women who have travelled with Pink Bus Mystery Tours out of Fargo, N.D.

While a mystery vacation isn't for everyone, White is one of those who love it. His wife, Karin, organizes their mystery getaways, which have lasted from a day to two weeks. She has whisked him off to England, Mexico, Maine, Rhode Island and, most recently, Colorado, Arizona and Utah. She tells him in advance how long they'll be gone, then does the rest, including packing.

**A mystery vacation isn't for everyone. While some laud it as an adventure free from the hassles of trip planning, others say it's unnerving giving up so much control.**

But not everyone loves that feeling. Lynnette Cashman said she felt "a little out of sync" during a 30th-anniversary surprise planned by her husband, who normally leaves travel arrangements to her. She knew something was up two months ago when she saw credit card charges for a four-day trip to St. John's, in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Although she appreciated her husband's efforts, thought St. John's was beautiful and the trip relaxing, she said she felt "annoyed at times" and "detached" at others.

Still, others are so intrigued by mystery tours, they sign up for them on their own. Women pay $200 for a four-person room and an unknown adventure with Pink Bus Mystery Tours from Saturday morning until Sunday night.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## JOURNEY WOMAN

EVELYN HANNON
JOURNEYWOMAN.COM

For Christmas, Hanukkah or a special birthday I generally choose travel books as gifts for my best female friends.

Whether they're an eco-adventuress or a gal that prefers armchair travel, I can always find something special.

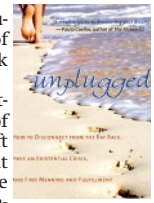
**Amare: A True Italian Love Story, by Sheila Wright**

Amare is a magical memoir of an odyssey that began as a trip around the world and transformed into an unforgettable journey into the heart and soul of southern Italy.

**Pampered in Paris: A Guide to the Best Spas, Salons and Beauty Boutiques, by Kim Horton Levesque**

Where do chic and savvy Parisians go to pamper and indulge themselves? The culture of well-being and beauty thrives in Paris, not only at the institutes of internationally known product brands, but in the hands of individual practitioners who work in more unassuming settings.

**Unplugged, by Nancy Whitney-Reiter**




The author of this book survived the attacks of 9/11, left her job at a Fortune 500 company and embarked on a year of international travel and soul searching.

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Swiss Vitamin B12, 6, Folic 60 Chewables $4.99
Omega Alpha Vita Sex 100mL $12.99

# Bunches of punches for your holiday parties

**Whether light and fizzy or dense and decadent, there's a punch recipe to complement every soirée**

Following the adage that everything old is new again, the hot trend in party drinks this holiday is punch, served in, you guessed it, a punch bowl.

Various sources say punch was introduced to England from India in the early 17th century and then it spread to other countries. The word punch is said to be derived from the Hindustan word "panch," which means "five." This can be traced back to the "rule of five" stating that a punch must have at least five ingredients.

"These must be something sweet, sour, strong, weak and the addition of spices," explains Christopher Freeland, spokesperson for the Liquor Control Board of Ontario.

Tanya Steel, editor-in-chief of Epicurious, says the resurgence of punch may also be a harbinger of the times. "I think punches are a big beverage trend this holiday season because they are festive to look at and imbibe and it enables the host to stretch a little liquor a long way," she said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Stir things up

**Here are some tips on preparing punch:**

- Estimate the number of servings you will need. Generally punch is served in 125-ml (4-oz) round cups or glasses. Plan for three to four servings per guest.
- Use quality ingredients.
- If garnishing with fruit don't overload the bowl.
- Have as many of the ingredients chilled before beginning to make punch.
- Offer guests a non-alcoholic version of a punch that contains alcohol. The two bowls should be separated and clearly identified.

**Source: thatsthespirit.com**

## Pear Tree Punch

### Preparation:

1. In a pitcher, place all ingredients and stir to mix. Pour into punch bowl holding ice.
2. To flame an orange zest: Using a sharp knife, cut an oval tab of zest about one by three inches.
3. With the skin pointing outward bend the oval toward the flame of a lighter over the drink. The flame should ignite the oils which will squirt from the zest. Add the flamed orange peel.

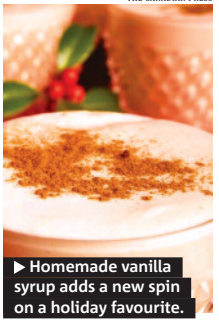
### Ingredients :

- 375 ml (1 1/2 cups) single malt Scotch
- 10 dashes orange bitters or regular bitters
- 750 ml (3 cups) pear juice
- Flamed orange zest, for garnish

THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Pear Tree Punch features a flamed orange garnish for a special twist.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ Homemade vanilla syrup adds a new spin on a holiday favourite.

## Nod to Nog

### Preparation:

1. To make vanilla syrup, add equal parts sugar and boiling water to a heatproof vessel, stir to dissolve and let cool. Add 2 to 3 drops of vanilla extract or 1/4 vanilla bean. Stir to mix.
2. Combine ingredients with blender and add to a punch bowl. Keep chilled.
3. Garnish each serving with a pinch of nutmeg.

### Ingredients :

- 375 ml (1 1/2 cups) Canadian whisky
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) vanilla syrup (see step 1)
- 750 ml (3 cups) cream
- 8 egg whites
- Nutmeg, for garnish

# BE CAUTIOUS WHEN CALLING THE MINISTRY

**Don't confuse advice for info when speaking to a hotline representative ◆ Have questions? Consult a laywer**

**Workplace Law**

**DANIEL LUBLIN**
IS AN EMPLOYMENT LAWYER WITH WHITTEN & LUBLIN LLP.
DAN@TORONTOEMPLOYMENTLAWYER.COM

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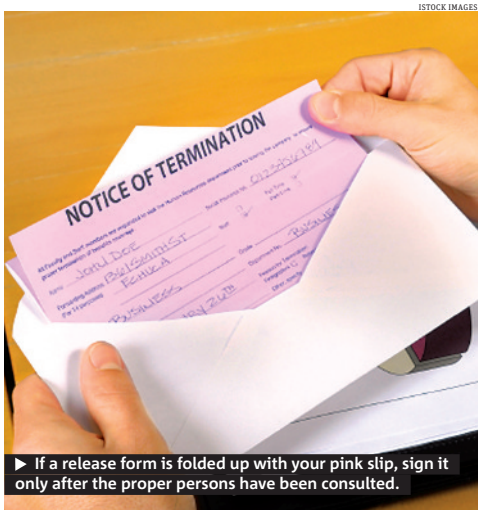


▶ If a release form is folded up with your pink slip, sign it only after the proper persons have been consulted.

One individual's experience, told here, provides an example of why you should be careful when you call the Ministry of Labour.

Following his termination, Scott Seltzer was given a termination package consisting of a three-week severance payment required by legislation and an offer for an additional payment in exchange for signing a release.

Instead of calling a lawyer, Seltzer called the B.C. Ministry of Labour for advice. Seltzer was told that in B.C. a worker "could not sign their legal rights away," which is technically correct but practically misleading. Each province has legislation that sets out minimum severance. Here, Seltzer was entitled to a minimum payment of three weeks' salary. However, since Seltzer was entitled to more than just the minimum, his employer asked him to sign a release for the additional payments — which is an agreement not to later sue. Although this was an issue that most employment lawyers would spot as a matter of course, the Ministry representative failed to clarify the distinction.

Relying on what he was told, Seltzer mistakenly thought he had nothing to lose by signing the release, believing he could take the extra money and then challenge his employer for more. However, when he later made a human rights complaint, his claim was dismissed at a preliminary hearing because of the release he had signed. Why did this happen and how could it be avoided?

Most provincial employment ministries in Canada have hotlines for employees to call to obtain "information" about their rights. The problem is that this information is often construed as "advice," since advice is often inappropriately dispensed by the ministry representatives who answer the phone. And, since most people will believe, even if incorrectly, that they received advice from a government body, they are unlikely to later pay for a lawyer's time to obtain a second opinion.

This example is not an exception. The ministry representatives should explain only what the legislation says and how it was interpreted in the past. There is no mandate to provide recommendations, or worse, to provide advice.

Yet it happens anyway when some of the representatives habitually blur this distinction. When they do, the public's interests may be subverted.

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Yorkdale Mall

# Does my job bring me joy?

## Experts emphasize that now is the best time of year to evaluate your career choices

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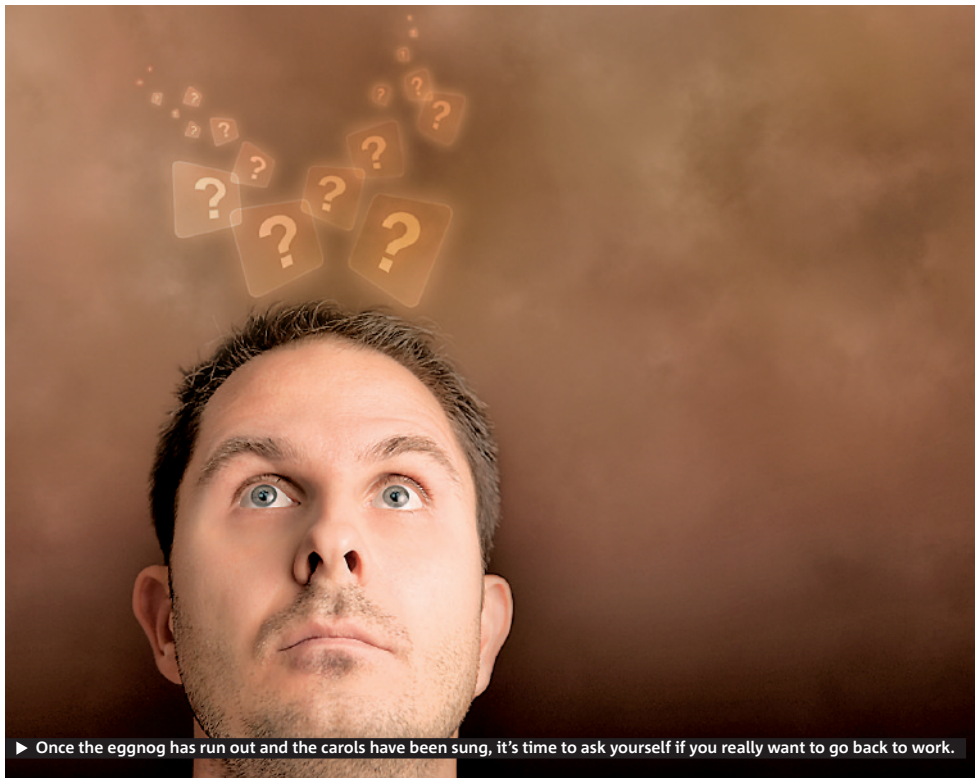

▶ Once the eggnog has run out and the carols have been sung, it's time to ask yourself if you really want to go back to work.

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DREW HINSHAW
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

As the stressful season of year-end deadlines and pre-Christmas chaos boils down to a cozy yuletide break, there's no more fitting a moment, career counselors say, to take a pause by the fireside and reflect on whether your daily work is meaningful.

"A rare few people have a real career plan, some people have a vague idea of what they should do, and most people have no formal goals," Executive Coach Jane Cranston says. "It's when they get into their mid-30s that they start asking 'where am I?'"

Better to start contemplating your life goals, she says, on December 30th than your 30th December.

That's true not just because the solstice has a magic for forcing normally rushed professionals to peer backwards at the years gone by – but because the winter months happen to be the prime time window to execute a career swap.

"Believe it or not, December, January and the first half of February are counter-intuitively, the best time to find a new job," Fearless Career Change author Marky Stein notes.

But they're also pretty good months to find the joy in your old job.

Start by using the holiday time, Stein recommends, to ask yourself what's right about your job, moving from basic questions – Does your boss respect you? Do your co-workers understand you? – towards more core considerations, like "Am I proud of what I do?" she suggests.

"Finally, there's the big existential question of 'Would I like to be remembered after my retirement or death as doing the position I am now doing and doing it well?" she offers. "People have to honestly face that question at one point or another."

A career counselor can help break down that daunting dilemma into a mere challenge.

"We help people set and attain goals," Cranston says. "The evidence is that most people attain more, faster when they have a coach."

holiday
SERVICE SCHEDULE

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## Raps look forward to taking a break

It might not be visions of sugar plums dancing in their heads, but there may be a Raptor or two dreaming of fresh seafood, gumbo, macaroni and cheese and candied yams when they face the Detroit Pistons at the Air Canada Centre tonight.

It is the last game before a four-day holiday break, and with the tugs of family and friends and last-minute shopping to worry about, keeping players focused may be coach Jay Triano's biggest task.

And that's not even talking about the allure of food — good home-cooked meals that are as much a staple of the holidays as anything material.

"My family decided to come out and spend the holidays with me," said Californian Amir Johnson. "They're already cooking the food. They've got the gumbo, the collard greens, sweet potato pie, all that good food."

And if Julian Wright is a bit distracted, well, it's because his mom is due in town and it's time for a feast.

"Ham, candied yams, macaroni and cheese, everything," said Wright. "It's Thanksgiving but we do it on Christmas ... I'm going to get a home-cooked meal."

This season, the Christmas break runs from after tonight's game until an evening practice in Memphis on Boxing Day before a game there Dec. 27.

Some players will head to their hometowns, but a few will stick around in Toronto for a variety of reasons.

"I'm from Chicago and it's hard to get out of there if it's snowing," said Wright. "They cancel direct flights like nothing so I don't want to risk going home to Chicago."

The grizzled old veteran Johnson has another reason.

"My first couple of years, I was happy to go home but now, I'm like, whatever," he said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

JUSTIN K. ALLER/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Jonas Gustavsson has gone 1-6-1 in his last eight games.

# Net woes for Leafs

**With Giguere out, Toronto is counting on Gustavsson, who hasn't won a game since Dec. 6 ◐ If Monster struggles, Reimer may get the call**

All of a sudden, goaltending is turning into an issue for the Toronto Maple Leafs.

With J.S. Giguere out for at least two weeks with a sore groin, Jonas Gustavsson will again be looked on to carry the load in net.

But unlike the last time Giguere was sidelined — when hockey fans in these parts were looking forward to seeing what Gustavsson could do with a heavier workload — this time, there's more apprehension.

Gustavsson hasn't been himself lately. He's been battling the puck and making mental mistakes.

After Giguere pulled his groin Nov. 16 against Nashville, Gustavsson held the fort for the rest of the game and won two of the next three, allowing just four goals in that span.

**"You can't think about it. You have to keep working and believe in what you're doing."**
JONAS GUSTAVSSON

But he's only won one game since — a Dec. 6 comeback in Washington — and finds himself on a 1-6-1 slide, having allowed 33 goals in his last nine appearances. It adds up to a 4.42 goals-against average and .849 save percentage since Nov. 26.

"The last couple of games there have been a couple of goals where I couldn't see the puck, or the puck hits the stick or something like that," said Gustavsson, who will have a chance to redeem himself on Boxing Day in New Jersey. "Some weeks, those pucks stay out of the net, some weeks those go in."

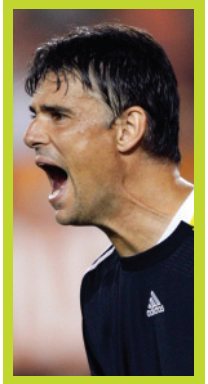
No job in the NHL is permanent; and given the number of goalie sticks Gustavsson has slammed over his own crossbar in recent weeks, this is a fact of which he's keenly aware. If there's a position where the Maple Leafs believe themselves to be deep as an organization, it's in net.

James Reimer, who got his first taste of the NHL Monday when Gustavsson was pulled after allowing five goals on 18 shots, is next in line on the depth chart.

"We're very confident in James," said head coach Ron Wilson. "He might and he probably should play a game in here somewhere. I'll withhold judgment until after we've played the New Jersey game." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

4 sports

**Quoted**



**"When I look back at the MLS stage of my career, I'm pretty proud of what I accomplished from the age of 35 on. I worked hard for that."**
PAT ONSTAD, THE STAR CANADIAN GOALKEEPER WHO ANNOUNCED HE WAS RETIRING FROM THE HOUSTON DYNAMO AT THE AGE OF 42 TO BECOME AN ASSISTANT COACH WITH D.C. UNITED. HE LEAVES WITH THREE MLS CHAMPIONSHIPS AND TWO MLS GOALKEEPER OF THE YEAR AWARDS DESPITE NOT JOINING THE LEAGUE UNTIL HE WAS 35.

NBA

## Rockets want Yao exception

The Houston Rockets have asked the NBA for a disabled player salary cap exception in the wake of Yao Ming's season-ending ankle injury.

Yao has been out since Nov. 10, and the team announced last Friday that he had a stress fracture in his left ankle. The seven-time all-star, who missed all of last season following reconstructive foot surgery, appeared in only five regular-season games this year before going down again.

The disabled player exception would allow the Rockets to acquire a free agent, or trade for a player without having to match salaries, up to the value of the mid-level exception (about $5.75 million US).

The league granted Houston the same disabled player exception for Yao in 2009.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Philadelphia enjoying bite out of Big Apple

### Some saying Philly has taken over dominance mantel from N.Y.

BILL KOSTROUN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Eagles players mob teammate DeSean Jackson after he returned a punt for a touchdown during the fourth quarter of Sunday's victory against the New York Giants.

LeSean McCoy stood on a bench after the Philadelphia Eagles jolted the New York Giants and yelled at a stunned, disbelieving crowd. Around him, teammates jumped and celebrated, the comeback victory too astonishing to comprehend.

"We own New York. We own New York. We own y'all," the normally mild-mannered running back shouted at fans.

There's no denying McCoy is right — at least for now. The City of Brotherly Love really stuck it to the Big Apple last week.

First, the Phillies swooped in from nowhere and signed Cliff Lee away from the Yankees. The star pitcher turned down an extra $30-plus million US from New York to return to Philadelphia and be part of a starting rotation that's the envy of baseball.

Next, the Flyers beat the Rangers 4-1 Saturday after snapping Pittsburgh's 12-game winning streak a few days earlier. These were the same Rangers the Flyers defeated in a do-or-die shootout to clinch a playoff berth last spring en route to the Stanley Cup final.

Then the Eagles capped a spectacular week by overcoming a 21-point deficit with 7:18 remaining and beating the Giants 38-31 on Sunday on the final play — DeSean Jackson's 65-yard punt return that's being called the "Miracle at the New Meadowlands."

"After Cliff Lee took less money to come to Philly instead of the Yankees, the Flyers destroyed the Rangers with everyone watching, and the Eagles yet again made the Giants look like circus clowns. New Yorkers can no longer ignore the fact that Philly owns them," die-hard fan Dave Maco said.

"Not just in sports. But in character and heart."

Yes, it's a great time to be a sports fan in Philadelphia. The city is the epicentre of the sports world these days.

"I'm sure it's exciting," Eagles coach Andy Reid said. "I know it's exciting for us. I know it's exciting for the fans."

Michael Vick's remarkable comeback is perhaps the most compelling story in sports. With Vick and Jackson leading the way, the Eagles (10-4) are strong contenders to get to the Super Bowl.

Even the 76ers are playing better after a rough start under first-year coach Doug Collins.

In U.S. college basketball, Villanova is ranked No. 8, and Temple and Drexel knocked off top-20 teams in the past two weeks.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Opinion

ADAM PROTEAU
THE HOCKEY NEWS

# STILL A LOT TO PROVE IN LEAFS' CREASE

**Maple Leafs GM Brian Burke will tell anyone who will listen that he builds his teams starting from the net, moving out toward the defence corps, and, finally, with the forwards.**

Burke has been true to that blueprint since he got to Toronto by signing Jonas Gustavsson and acquiring Jean-Sebastien Giguere from Anaheim last season. But, of late, it appears the Leafs' net situation isn't quite as solidified for the future as he might like.

Yet while there are worrisome signs regarding the Buds' backstoppers, the truth is somewhat more comforting.

First, the troubling stuff: Giguere has continued to have problems with his groin — and struggled on the ice, as evidenced by an .894 save percentage and 2.80 goals-against average — and Gustavsson (3.10 GAA, .894 save percentage) has looked equally inconsistent.

The better news is that Burke has hedged his organization's bets by stockpiling a number of goaltending prospects, including Finnish netminder Jussi Rynnas and Canadians Ben Scrivens and James Reimer. All three have accomplishments on their resumés that suggest they could get a shot at the Leafs' net duties sooner or later.

Rynnas is a rookie to the North American game, but with Toronto's American League affiliate, he's been named an AHL player of the week and has an impressive .922 save percentage in 18 games with the Marlies this season.

Reimer also has good numbers (including a 7-3-1 record, .920 save percentage and three shutouts) with the Marlies. And Scrivens, who began the year with Toronto's ECHL affiliate, was named the top goalie in one conference of NCAA Division 1 hockey last season.

JUSTIN K. ALLER/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Jonas Gustavsson

Burke doesn't need any one of the four (including Gustavsson) in particular to pan out — but he desperately needs at least one of them to prove Toronto's scouts and player developers were right to sign them.

If that can't happen, Burke will be forced to look at trades or signings to address the position. And as is painfully evident, he doesn't have many organizational assets with which to tempt other GMs.

For the sake of Leafs fans, let's hope it won't come to that.

# Malkin takes it up a notch

The Pittsburgh Penguins finished up a 12-game win streak only last week, yet they might be a better team now than they were then.

Evgeni Malkin is making them better.

Malkin is finally showing off the flashy game that was missing most of the season, with five goals and three assists in three games. Accompanying those goals was the razzle-dazzle that helped make the Russian the NHL's leading scorer and playoff MVP two seasons ago.

Malkin, admittedly slowed by a left knee injury that forced him to wear a thin brace, was almost a non-factor during the second-longest winning streak in Penguins history. He scored goals in only six of their first 31 games, a replay of his disappointing 2009-10 season.

Since Malkin took four games off to rest the knee, he again resembles the player who was once considered Crosby's near equal.

Malkin had two goals and three assists in the first two periods of Pittsburgh's 6-1 victory over Phoenix on Monday night, reminding the Penguins what they've been missing.

"I was just trying to keep up with him," said Crosby, who had a goal and an assist against the Coyotes.

Resting Malkin for 12 days might have been exactly what was needed to get him back on his game. He had both Penguins goals during a streak-ending 3-2 loss in Philadelphia on Dec. 14, then scored again a night later against the Rangers. Then, after Pittsburgh enjoyed a rare four-day break, he matched his career high with his five-point night against Phoenix.

"It's close to 100 per cent because it's not painful now," Malkin said of the sore knee. "I'm trying to chase guys and work hard close to the boards. Yeah, it's close to 100 per cent."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# McNabb feels 'disrespected'

Making his first public comments since his demotion last week, Donovan McNabb said he strongly disagreed with Washington Redskins coach Mike Shanahan's decision to bench him.

But he has a bigger problem with the way he says the organization leaked the news to the media before informing him.

"Everything was handled awkwardly," McNabb said yesterday on his weekly radio show on ESPN980. "Because of the timing and because of all the leaks and everything that was put out there, and no putting out the fire, so to speak.

"I'm hearing everything through the media."

Shanahan waited until Thursday evening to tell McNabb that Rex Grossman would be the starter for the rest of the season, even though rumblings of a possible switch had been circulating all week.

"I was pulled back by it. All of a sudden you get this news a couple of days before the game, you do feel somewhat disrespected," McNabb said. "You could have told me earlier or at least prepared me for it."

McNabb said he wasn't even aware he was being demoted to No. 3 quarterback for the final two games of the season until Shanahan announced the move to reporters the next day.

As for the benching, McNabb conceded he's had a tough year, but said he felt he had made enough progress in his first season with the Redskins' to give the team something to build on. Shanahan said he benched McNabb because the team had been eliminated from the playoffs and he wanted to evaluate the two other quarterbacks, Grossman and John Beck.

The Redskins signed McNabb to a contract extension last month, but it contains a clause that allows the team to release him before next season without further financial obligations.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FOSTER'S
Australian for Beer.
750ML CAN
WHY NOT PICK-UP A HANDFUL TODAY FROM
The Beer Store

# NHL

## EASTERN CONFERENCE

| | GP | W | L | OTL | SL | GF | GA | Pts | Home | Away | Last 10 | Strk |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| d-Philadelphia | 35 | 22 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 117 | 87 | 49 | 12-6-0-2 | 10-2-2-1 | 7-2-0-1 | L1 |
| d-Atlanta | 35 | 19 | 11 | 1 | 4 | 115 | 100 | 43 | 10-6-0-2 | 9-5-1-2 | 6-2-0-2 | W2 |
| d-Montreal | 33 | 19 | 12 | 2 | 0 | 87 | 72 | 40 | 12-5-2-0 | 7-7-0-0 | 5-4-1-0 | L1 |
| Pittsburgh | 34 | 22 | 10 | 2 | 0 | 110 | 79 | 46 | 11-6-1-0 | 11-4-1-0 | 8-2-0-0 | W1 |
| Tampa Bay | 33 | 19 | 10 | 2 | 2 | 104 | 109 | 42 | 10-2-1-1 | 9-8-1-1 | 7-1-0-2 | W4 |
| Washington | 35 | 19 | 12 | 2 | 2 | 104 | 99 | 42 | 12-4-1-2 | 7-8-1-0 | 2-6-1-1 | W1 |
| NY Rangers | 35 | 20 | 14 | 1 | 0 | 105 | 91 | 41 | 8-8-1-0 | 12-6-0-0 | 6-4-0-0 | L1 |
| Boston | 32 | 17 | 11 | 1 | 3 | 89 | 68 | 38 | 8-6-1-2 | 9-5-0-1 | 5-3-1-1 | L1 |
| Carolina | 32 | 15 | 13 | 0 | 4 | 90 | 99 | 34 | 7-5-0-1 | 8-8-0-3 | 4-3-0-3 | L1 |
| Ottawa | 35 | 14 | 17 | 3 | 1 | 81 | 106 | 32 | 8-9-1-1 | 5-8-2-0 | 3-4-2-1 | L2 |
| Florida | 31 | 15 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 85 | 78 | 30 | 7-6-0-0 | 8-10-0-0 | 5-5-0-0 | W2 |
| Buffalo | 33 | 13 | 16 | 4 | 0 | 84 | 95 | 30 | 7-9-1-0 | 6-7-3-0 | 5-4-1-0 | L2 |
| Toronto | 33 | 12 | 17 | 2 | 2 | 75 | 102 | 28 | 8-7-2-1 | 4-10-0-1 | 4-6-0-0 | L3 |
| New Jersey | 32 | 9 | 21 | 1 | 1 | 58 | 98 | 20 | 5-8-1-1 | 4-13-0-0 | 2-8-0-0 | L2 |
| NY Islanders | 30 | 6 | 18 | 3 | 3 | 65 | 104 | 18 | 4-7-1-2 | 2-11-2-1 | 2-6-1-1 | L1 |

## WESTERN CONFERENCE

| | GP | W | L | OTL | SL | GF | GA | Pts | Home | Away | Last 10 | Strk |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| d-Detroit | 32 | 20 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 105 | 88 | 44 | 12-4-2-1 | 8-4-1-0 | 4-4-2-0 | L2 |
| d-Dallas | 33 | 20 | 10 | 1 | 2 | 95 | 90 | 43 | 11-3-1-1 | 9-7-0-1 | 6-2-1-1 | W2 |
| d-Vancouver | 31 | 19 | 8 | 2 | 2 | 101 | 78 | 42 | 11-3-1-1 | 8-5-1-1 | 7-2-1-0 | W4 |
| Colorado | 33 | 19 | 10 | 4 | 0 | 121 | 105 | 42 | 10-4-1-0 | 9-6-3-0 | 6-1-3-0 | W6 |
| Nashville | 32 | 17 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 83 | 79 | 40 | 8-2-3-2 | 9-7-1-0 | 8-1-1-0 | L1 |
| Anaheim | 37 | 18 | 15 | 2 | 2 | 96 | 106 | 40 | 11-6-0-1 | 7-9-2-1 | 5-4-0-1 | W1 |
| San Jose | 33 | 17 | 11 | 4 | 1 | 100 | 94 | 39 | 8-4-2-1 | 9-7-2-0 | 6-3-0-1 | W2 |
| Chicago | 35 | 18 | 14 | 2 | 1 | 111 | 103 | 39 | 10-9-0-0 | 8-5-2-1 | 6-3-1-0 | W2 |
| Los Angeles | 31 | 18 | 12 | 1 | 0 | 90 | 75 | 37 | 11-2-1-0 | 7-10-0-0 | 5-4-1-0 | L1 |
| Phoenix | 32 | 15 | 10 | 4 | 3 | 89 | 93 | 37 | 6-4-2-2 | 9-6-2-1 | 4-4-0-2 | L1 |
| Columbus | 32 | 16 | 13 | 2 | 1 | 82 | 90 | 35 | 8-8-0-1 | 8-5-2-0 | 3-5-1-1 | L4 |
| St. Louis | 32 | 15 | 12 | 2 | 3 | 82 | 91 | 35 | 10-4-0-2 | 5-8-2-1 | 3-5-1-1 | L2 |
| Minnesota | 32 | 15 | 13 | 1 | 3 | 79 | 91 | 34 | 8-7-0-2 | 7-6-1-1 | 5-3-1-1 | W2 |
| Calgary | 34 | 14 | 17 | 1 | 2 | 91 | 100 | 31 | 9-7-0-0 | 5-10-1-2 | 4-5-0-1 | L2 |
| Edmonton | 31 | 12 | 14 | 1 | 4 | 84 | 108 | 29 | 6-8-1-1 | 6-6-1-2 | 6-3-0-1 | W1 |

d — division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

**Last night's results**
Anaheim at Buffalo
St. Louis at Atlanta
Calgary at Columbus
New Jersey at Washington
Montreal at Dallas
Los Angeles at Colorado
Edmonton at San Jose

**Monday's results**
Vancouver 3 St. Louis 1
Atlanta 6 Toronto 3
Minnesota 4 Calgary 1
Anaheim 3 Boston 0
Florida 5 Philadelphia 0
Pittsburgh 6 Phoenix 1
Tampa Bay 5 Carolina 1

**Tonight's games**
**(All times Eastern)**
Tampa Bay at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
Florida at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
Vancouver at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Nashville at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.

## SCORING LEADERS

| | G | A | PT |
|---|---|---|---|
| Crosby, Pgh | 27 | 30 | 57 |
| Stamkos, TB | 26 | 21 | 47 |
| St. Louis, TB | 13 | 30 | 43 |
| Perry, Ana | 17 | 22 | 39 |
| Datsyuk, Det | 12 | 27 | 39 |
| D.Sedin, Vcr | 16 | 22 | 38 |
| B.Richards, Dal | 15 | 23 | 38 |
| Ovechkin, Wash | 12 | 26 | 38 |
| H.Sedin, Vcr | 6 | 31 | 37 |
| Getzlaf, Ana | 13 | 22 | 35 |
| Byfuglien, Atl | 11 | 24 | 35 |
| Sharp, Chi | 18 | 16 | 34 |
| Eriksson, Dal | 14 | 20 | 34 |
| Duchene, Col | 13 | 21 | 34 |
| Backstrom, Wash | 11 | 23 | 34 |
| Semin, Wash | 18 | 15 | 33 |
| E.Staal, Car | 16 | 17 | 33 |
| Roy, Buf | 10 | 23 | 33 |
| Zetterberg, Det | 10 | 23 | 33 |
| Toews, Chi | 15 | 17 | 32 |
| Kopitar, LA | 14 | 18 | 32 |
| P.Stastny, Col | 13 | 19 | 32 |
| M.Richards, Pha | 11 | 21 | 32 |
| Giroux, Pha | 16 | 15 | 31 |
| Heatley, SJ | 14 | 17 | 31 |
| Iginla, Cal | 14 | 17 | 31 |
| Ladd, Atl | 12 | 19 | 31 |
| Hejduk, Col | 11 | 20 | 31 |
| Malkin, Pgh | 13 | 17 | 30 |
| Selanne, Ana | 10 | 20 | 30 |
| Clowe, SJ | 9 | 21 | 30 |
| Havlat, Minn | 8 | 22 | 30 |
| Letang, Pgh | 6 | 23 | 29 |
| J.Carter, Pha | 13 | 15 | 28 |
| Neal, Dal | 13 | 15 | 28 |
| J.Williams, LA | 11 | 17 | 28 |
| Plekanec, Mtl | 10 | 18 | 28 |
| M.Koivu, Minn | 7 | 21 | 28 |
| J.Thornton, SJ | 7 | 21 | 28 |
| Liles, Col | 5 | 23 | 28 |
| Visnovsky, Ana | 5 | 23 | 28 |
| Lucic, Bos | 16 | 11 | 27 |
| Dubinsky, NYR | 14 | 13 | 27 |
| Ryan, Ana | 14 | 13 | 27 |
| P.Kane, Chi | 11 | 16 | 27 |
| Nash, Clb | 17 | 9 | 26 |
| Kesler, Vcr | 16 | 10 | 26 |
| MacArthur, Tor | 9 | 17 | 26 |
| Malone, TB | 9 | 17 | 26 |
| Tanguay, Cal | 9 | 17 | 26 |
| Lidstrom, Det | 7 | 19 | 26 |
| Ribeiro, Dal | 5 | 21 | 26 |
| Enstrom, Atl | 4 | 22 | 26 |
| Briere, Pha | 16 | 9 | 25 |
| Vanek, Buf | 13 | 12 | 25 |
| Cammalleri, Mtl | 12 | 13 | 25 |
| Grabovski, Tor | 12 | 13 | 25 |
| D.Brown, LA | 11 | 14 | 25 |
| C.Stewart, Col | 11 | 14 | 25 |
| Pavelski, SJ | 9 | 16 | 25 |
| Couture, SJ | 17 | 7 | 24 |
| Franzen, Det | 14 | 10 | 24 |
| R.Bourque, Cal | 13 | 11 | 24 |
| Marleau, SJ | 11 | 13 | 24 |
| Leino, Pha | 8 | 16 | 24 |
| Skinner, Car | 8 | 16 | 24 |
| Backes, StL | 7 | 17 | 24 |
| Ry.Whitney, Edm | 0 | 24 | 24 |
| Cleary, Det | 14 | 9 | 23 |
| Horton, Bos | 11 | 12 | 23 |
| Callahan, NYR | 10 | 13 | 23 |
| J.Jokinen, Car | 5 | 18 | 23 |
| Boyle, SJ | 3 | 20 | 23 |
| Alfredsson, Ott | 11 | 11 | 22 |
| Eberle, Edm | 9 | 13 | 22 |
| Hartnell, Pha | 8 | 14 | 22 |
| Peverley, Atl | 8 | 14 | 22 |
| Umberger, Clb | 8 | 14 | 22 |
| Elias, NJ | 6 | 16 | 22 |
| Purcell, TB | 6 | 16 | 22 |
| Krjeci, Bos | 5 | 17 | 22 |
| Keith, Chi | 3 | 19 | 22 |

**Not including last night's games**

# FOOTBALL

## NCAA

### BOWL GAMES

**All times Eastern**
**Tonight's game**
**BEEF 'O' BRADY'S BOWL**
**At St. Petersburg, Fla.**
Louisville (6-6) vs. Southern Mississippi (8-4), 8 p.m.
**Tonight's game**
**MAACO BOWL**
**At Las Vegas**
Utah (10-2) vs. Boise State (11-1), 8 p.m.
**Tomorrow's game**
**POINSETTIA BOWL**
**At San Diego, Calif.**
San Diego State (8-4) vs. Navy (8-3), 8 p.m.
**Friday's game**
**HAWAII BOWL**
**At Honolulu**
Hawaii (10-3) vs. Tulsa (9-3), 8 p.m.
**Sunday's game**
**LITTLE CAESARS PIZZA BOWL**
**At Detroit**
Toledo (8-4) vs. Florida International (6-6), 8:30 p.m.
**Monday, Dec. 27**
**INDEPENDENCE BOWL**
**At Shreveport, La.**
Georgia Tech (6-6) vs. Air Force (8-4), 5 p.m.
**Tuesday, Dec. 28**
**CHAMPS SPORTS BOWL**
**At Orlando, Fla.**
North Carolina State (8-4) vs. West Virginia (9-3), 6:30 p.m.
**INSIGHT BOWL**
**At Tempe, Ariz.**
Missouri (10-2) vs. Iowa (7-5), 10 p.m.
**Wednesday, Dec. 29**
**MILITARY BOWL**
**At Landover, Md.**
East Carolina (6-6) vs. Maryland (8-4), 2:30 p.m.
**TEXAS BOWL**
**At Houston**
Baylor (7-5) vs. Illinois (6-6), 6 p.m.
**ALAMO BOWL**
**At San Antonio**
Arizona (7-5) vs. Oklahoma State (10-2), 9 p.m.

# SOCCER

## SCOTLAND

### PREMIER LEAGUE

**Yesterday's results**
Celtic 1 Kilmarnock 1
Dundee United vs. Rangers (ppd., snow)

## SPAIN

### COPA DEL REY

**Round of 16**
**First Leg**
**Yesterday's results**
Barcelona 0, Athletic Bilbao 0
Cordoba 1, Deportivo La Coruna 1
Valencia 0, Villarreal 0

## FRANCE

### LIGUE 1

**Yesterday's result**
Lorient 0 Montpellier 0

## GERMANY

### GERMAN CUP

**Round of 16**
**Yesterday's results**
Augsburg 0, Schalke 1
Hoffenheim 2, Borussia Moenchengladbach 0
Kickers Offenbach vs. Nuremberg (ppd.)
Koblenz vs. Kaiserslautern (ppd.)

# NBA

## EASTERN CONFERENCE

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| d-Boston | 22 | 4 | .846 | — |
| d-Miami | 21 | 9 | .700 | 3 |
| d-Chicago | 16 | 9 | .640 | 5½ |
| Atlanta | 18 | 12 | .600 | 6 |
| Orlando | 16 | 11 | .593 | 6½ |
| New York | 16 | 12 | .571 | 7 |
| Indiana | 13 | 14 | .481 | 9½ |
| Philadelphia | 11 | 16 | .407 | 11½ |
| Milwaukee | 10 | 16 | .385 | 12 |
| Toronto | 10 | 18 | .357 | 13 |
| Charlotte | 9 | 18 | .333 | 13½ |
| Detroit | 9 | 19 | .321 | 14 |
| Cleveland | 8 | 20 | .286 | 15 |
| New Jersey | 8 | 20 | .286 | 15 |
| Washington | 7 | 19 | .269 | 15 |

## WESTERN CONFERENCE

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| d-San Antonio | 24 | 3 | .889 | — |
| Dallas | 22 | 5 | .815 | 2 |
| d-L.A. Lakers | 21 | 7 | .750 | 3½ |
| d-Utah | 20 | 9 | .690 | 5 |
| Oklahoma City | 19 | 9 | .679 | 5½ |
| Denver | 16 | 10 | .615 | 7½ |
| New Orleans | 16 | 12 | .571 | 8½ |
| Portland | 15 | 14 | .517 | 10 |
| Phoenix | 13 | 14 | .481 | 11 |
| Houston | 13 | 15 | .464 | 11½ |
| Memphis | 12 | 16 | .429 | 12½ |
| Golden State | 9 | 18 | .333 | 15 |
| L.A. Clippers | 8 | 21 | .276 | 17 |
| Minnesota | 6 | 23 | .207 | 19 |
| Sacramento | 5 | 20 | .200 | 18 |

d-division leader

**Last night's results**
Oklahoma City at Charlotte
Dallas at Orlando
Philadelphia at Chicago
New Jersey at Memphis
Golden State at Sacramento
Milwaukee at L.A. Lakers

**Monday's results**
Atlanta 91 Orlando 81
Utah 101 Cleveland 90
Indiana 94 New Orleans 93
Washington 108 Charlotte 75
Dallas 98 Miami 96
San Antonio 118 Phoenix 110
Portland 106 Milwaukee 80
Houston 121 Golden State 112
L.A. Clippers 113 Minnesota 90

**Tonight's games**
Cleveland at Atlanta, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Chicago at Washington, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Oklahoma City at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Utah at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
New Jersey at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
Denver at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Houston at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

## SCORING AVERAGE

| | G | FG | FT | PTS | AVG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Durant, OKC | 24 | 213 | 196 | 658 | 27.4 |
| Stoudemire, NYK | 28 | 281 | 174 | 742 | 26.5 |
| Bryant, LAL | 28 | 246 | 191 | 724 | 25.9 |
| Ellis, GOL | 27 | 260 | 119 | 680 | 25.2 |
| Nowitzki, DAL | 27 | 252 | 141 | 670 | 24.8 |
| Rose, CHI | 24 | 224 | 93 | 584 | 24.3 |
| James, MIA | 30 | 244 | 203 | 729 | 24.3 |
| Anthony, DEN | 24 | 200 | 161 | 576 | 24.0 |
| Gordon, LAC | 27 | 210 | 185 | 645 | 23.9 |
| Wade, MIA | 29 | 236 | 183 | 682 | 23.5 |
| Martin, HOU | 28 | 185 | 220 | 655 | 23.4 |
| Westbrook, OKC | 28 | 217 | 203 | 646 | 23.1 |
| Williams, UTA | 29 | 214 | 171 | 646 | 22.3 |
| Howard, ORL | 25 | 188 | 163 | 539 | 21.6 |
| Bargnani, TOR | 26 | 211 | 102 | 556 | 21.4 |
| Granger, IND | 26 | 191 | 111 | 553 | 21.3 |
| Beasley, MIN | 27 | 231 | 90 | 574 | 21.3 |
| Gay, MEM | 27 | 219 | 92 | 566 | 21.0 |
| Love, MIN | 29 | 204 | 157 | 603 | 20.8 |
| Griffin, LAC | 29 | 235 | 131 | 602 | 20.8 |
| Scola, HOU | 28 | 233 | 100 | 566 | 20.2 |
| Gasol, LAL | 28 | 214 | 125 | 553 | 19.8 |
| Ginobili, SAN | 27 | 164 | 140 | 531 | 19.7 |
| West, NOR | 27 | 209 | 100 | 519 | 19.2 |
| Lopez, NJN | 28 | 191 | 153 | 535 | 19.1 |
| Aldridge, POR | 29 | 219 | 112 | 553 | 19.1 |
| J. Richardson, ORL | 26 | 186 | 57 | 492 | 18.9 |
| Pierce, BOS | 26 | 167 | 116 | 480 | 18.5 |
| Felton, NYK | 28 | 185 | 95 | 516 | 18.4 |

**Not including last night's games**

# TRANSACTIONS

## BASEBALL

### MLB

**AMERICAN LEAGUE**
BOSTON RED SOX — Agreed to terms with RHP Bobby Jenks on a two-year contract. Designated INF Brent Dlugach for assignment.
CLEVELAND INDIANS — Agreed to terms with OF Travis Buck on a minor league contract.
LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Designated C Ryan Budde for assignment, who refused assignment and elected free agency.
OAKLAND ATHLETICS — Agreed to terms with RHP Rich Harden on a one-year contract.
TORONTO BLUE JAYS — Agreed to terms with OF Corey Patterson, RHP Winston Abreu, C Ryan Budde, LHP Sean Henn, LHP Mike Hinckley and RHP Brian Stokes on minor league contracts.

**NATIONAL LEAGUE**
HOUSTON ASTROS — Named Jamie Garcia pitching coordinator, Ty Van Burkleo roving hitting instructor, Frank Renner strength and conditioning coordinator, Jamey Snodgrass medical coordinator, Travis Driskill pitching coach and Bryan Baca trainer for Lancaster (California), Joel Chimelis hitting coach, Dave Borkowski pitching coach and Grant Hufford trainer of Lexington (SAL), Mark Bailey hitting coach and Kevin Ortega trainer of Tri-City (NY-P), Omar Lopez manager, Josh Bonifay hitting coach, Rick Aponte pitching coach and Michael Rendon trainer of Greeneville (Appalachian), Ed Romero manager, Edgar Alfonzo hitting coach and Charley Taylor pitching coach of the Astros (GCL), and Jose Martinez pitching coach, Joel Santos assistant pitching coach, Juan Zapata outfield coach, Johan Maya infield coach, Sixto Ortega catching coach, Ambiorix Reyes trainer and Edwin Garcia assistant trainer of the Astros (Dominican).
SAN DIEGO PADRES — Acquired C Rob Johnson from Seattle for a player to be named or cash considerations.

### AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

GARY SOUTHSHORE RAILCATS — Signed OF Adam Klein and OF Cody McMorris.
SIOUX CITY EXPLORERS — Released OF Jacob Cruz. Acquired OF Josh Flores from Joliet (Northern) to complete an earlier trade.
WINNIPEG GOLDEYES — Signed INF Price Kendall.

## BASKETBALL

### NBA

CHARLOTTE BOBCATS — Recalled G Sherron Collins from Maine (NBADL).
PHOENIX SUNS — Released C Earl Barron.

## FOOTBALL

### NFL

CINCINNATI BENGALS — Placed WR Terrell Owens on injured reserve.
DALLAS COWBOYS — Placed QB Tony Romo on injured reserve.
SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS — Signed OL Dennis Landolt and K Fabrizio Scaccia to the practice squad.
TENNESSEE TITANS — Signed DE Pannel Egboh and CB Chris Hawkins to practice squad.

## HOCKEY

### NHL

ANAHEIM DUCKS — Recalled LW Josh Green from Syracuse (AHL).
COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS — Extended their agreement with Springfield (AHL) through the 2011-12 season.
LOS ANGELES KINGS — Activated LW Marco Sturm from the non-roster injured list.
NEW YORK ISLANDERS — Placed G Rick DiPietro and D Mike Mottau on injured reserve.
TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING — Recalled F Johan Harju from Norfolk (AHL).

# NFL

## AMERICAN CONFERENCE

| EAST | W | L | T | Pct | PF | PA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| x-New England | 12 | 2 | 0 | .857 | 446 | 303 |
| N.Y. Jets | 10 | 4 | 0 | .714 | 295 | 259 |
| Miami | 7 | 7 | 0 | .500 | 239 | 261 |
| Buffalo | 4 | 10 | 0 | .286 | 273 | 353 |
| **SOUTH** | | | | | | |
| Indianapolis | 8 | 6 | 0 | .571 | 381 | 342 |
| Jacksonville | 8 | 6 | 0 | .571 | 319 | 365 |
| Tennessee | 6 | 8 | 0 | .429 | 322 | 282 |
| Houston | 5 | 9 | 0 | .357 | 333 | 386 |
| **NORTH** | | | | | | |
| x-Pittsburgh | 10 | 4 | 0 | .714 | 307 | 220 |
| Baltimore | 10 | 4 | 0 | .714 | 324 | 253 |
| Cleveland | 5 | 9 | 0 | .357 | 252 | 271 |
| Cincinnati | 3 | 11 | 0 | .214 | 281 | 362 |
| **WEST** | | | | | | |
| Kansas City | 9 | 5 | 0 | .643 | 322 | 281 |
| San Diego | 8 | 6 | 0 | .571 | 388 | 260 |
| Oakland | 7 | 7 | 0 | .500 | 353 | 330 |
| Denver | 3 | 11 | 0 | .214 | 292 | 415 |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Philadelphia | 10 | 4 | 0 | .714 | 412 | 339 |
| N.Y. Giants | 9 | 5 | 0 | .643 | 360 | 288 |
| Washington | 5 | 9 | 0 | .357 | 268 | 343 |
| Dallas | 5 | 9 | 0 | .357 | 354 | 396 |
| **SOUTH** | | | | | | |
| x-Atlanta | 12 | 2 | 0 | .857 | 369 | 261 |
| New Orleans | 10 | 4 | 0 | .714 | 354 | 270 |
| Tampa Bay | 8 | 6 | 0 | .571 | 280 | 290 |
| Carolina | 2 | 12 | 0 | .143 | 183 | 350 |
| **NORTH** | | | | | | |
| Chicago | 10 | 4 | 0 | .714 | 293 | 242 |
| Green Bay | 8 | 6 | 0 | .571 | 333 | 220 |
| Minnesota | 5 | 9 | 0 | .357 | 244 | 314 |
| Detroit | 4 | 10 | 0 | .286 | 308 | 329 |
| **WEST** | | | | | | |
| St. Louis | 6 | 8 | 0 | .429 | 258 | 295 |
| Seattle | 6 | 8 | 0 | .429 | 279 | 363 |
| San Francisco | 5 | 9 | 0 | .357 | 250 | 314 |
| Arizona | 4 | 10 | 0 | .286 | 255 | 370 |

x — clinched playoff berth.

### WEEK 15

**Monday's result**
Chicago 40 Minnesota 14
**Sunday's results**
Atlanta 34 Seattle 18
Baltimore 30 New Orleans 24
Buffalo 17 Miami 14
Carolina 19 Arizona 12
Cincinnati 19 Cleveland 17
Dallas 33 Washington 30
Detroit 23 Tampa Bay 20 (OT)
Indianapolis 34 Jacksonville 24
Kansas City 27 St. Louis 13
New England 31 Green Bay 27
N.Y. Jets 22 Pittsburgh 17
Oakland 39 Denver 23
Philadelphia 38 N.Y. Giants 31
Tennessee 31 Houston 17

### WEEK 16

**Tonmorrow's game**
**(All times Eastern)**
Carolina at Pittsburgh, 8:20 p.m.
**Saturday's game**
Dallas at Arizona, 7:30 p.m.
**Sunday's games**
Tennessee at Kansas City, 1 p.m.
San Francisco at St. Louis, 1 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at Chicago, 1 p.m.
Baltimore at Cleveland, 1 p.m.
New England at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
Detroit at Miami, 1 p.m.
Washington at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Indianapolis at Oakland, 4:05 p.m.
Houston at Denver, 4:05 p.m.
San Diego at Cincinnati, 4:05 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Green Bay, 4:15 p.m.
Seattle at Tampa Bay, 4:15 p.m.
Minnesota at Philadelphia, 8:20 p.m.
**Monday, Dec. 27**
New Orleans at Atlanta, 8:30 p.m.

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# Bears seek to snag first-round bye

**Off-season acquisitions paying off • Thinking big and putting disappointing 2009-10 season behind them**

Not long ago the Chicago Bears were all but buried, a team going nowhere under a pile of mounting losses.

Well, it turns out they are going somewhere. They're headed back to the playoffs for the first time since their run to the 2007 Super Bowl.

A 40-14 romp outdoors at Minnesota on a cold and snowy Monday night did the trick, giving the Bears (10-4) their third NFC North title in six years.

And what a performance it was.

They shook off a brutal beating by New England the previous weekend and snapped a three-year playoff drought with a dominant effort that included Devin Hester's NFL record 14th career kick return for a touchdown and three TD passes by Jay Cutler.

"This is just one step, it's one thing we can knock off," Cutler said.

It's a huge step, one that was hard to envision not too long ago.

The Bears were a mess heading into their bye in late October, with three losses in four games after a 3-0 start. They have since turned things around in a big way.

The win over Minnesota was the sixth in seven games for a team that had

**"We've got to do our part and get ready for a big-time playoff run."**
TIGHT END GREG OLSEN

appeared to be coming apart at the seams, with Cutler getting battered, the running game being ignored and the blockers providing little protection.

Now, they'll try to lock down a first-round playoff bye in a home game against the New York Jets, and then wrap up the regular season at Green Bay.

"This is our first goal of the season: Win the division and get in the playoffs," tight end Greg Olsen said. "Now we've got to win out these last two games to give ourselves the best possibility of getting a first-round bye."

A win over the Jets Sunday coupled with a loss by Philadelphia and a loss or tie by the New York Giants would give Chicago a first-round bye.

That would be another huge step for a team that was aiming high after a busy off-season.

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2011 Jeep Grand Cherokee Overland (in White Gold) shown.

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A diet makes you look sporty, even if there's no more muscle

▶ The RVR is 37 centimetres shorter than the standard Outlander. It's definitely a sporty little number, despite what its 143-horsepower four-cylinder engine implies.

# This SUV should earn a spot in the big leagues

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It's not every day that Mitsubishi introduces new models to North America, but it had to happen sooner or later.

Technically, though, the 2011 RVR (called the Outlander Sport in the U.S.) is a spin-off of the current Outlander wagon. In fact, both models use the same platform as the compact Lancer sedan. But with a 37-centimetre reduction in overall length over the Outlander, the RVR actually appears radically different. It's also geared to a different audience and seems destined to fulfill a different mission in life.

Without doubt, the RVR's attractively proportioned shape appears, well, sporty, as opposed to the sheetmetal on the family-values-looking Outlander. In fact, only the senior Outlander's outside mirrors are shared with the upstart. From stem to stern, the design is more cohesive and works well with the Lancer Evolution-style open-mouth nosepiece that Mitsubishi claims was inspired by jet-fighter air intakes.

▶ It actually is pretty sporty inside. It's reminiscent of the exceptional Hyundai Tucson, which is quite a compliment.

Naturally, a price must be paid for pruning more than a foot from the RVR's length. The bigger Outlander is available with a third row and the RVR is not. Simple.

Although the cargo hold has been similarly shortened, it remains more than adequate. If need be, the storage space can be maxed out by folding forward the split 60:40 rear seat.

The five-passenger seating arrangement will suit most needs although we wonder about the polka-dot-like base seat coverings. For drivers, a display screen indicating fuel, outside temperature, odometer reading and other vitals separates the dashboard's large twin gauge pods.

The RVR's thrust is provided by the Lancer-based 2.0-litre four-cylinder engine that makes 148 horsepower and 145 pound-feet of torque. That's not exactly earth-shattering compared to the Hyundai Tucson's 175-horsepower engine or the Volkswagen Tiguan's 200 turbocharged horses, but it should be enough to make the 1,410-kilogram RVR (about 180 kilograms lighter than the original Outlander) perform in a lively manner.

The RVR's performance might not entirely live up to its sporty intentions (Mitsubishi has more potent four-cylinder engines that it could easily draw upon), but for style and content, this shrink-wrapped wagon should earn a spot in the big leagues.

## Mitsubishi RVR

**What you should know about the 2011 Mitsubishi RVR:**

- **Type:** Four-door compact front- /four-wheel-drive sport utility vehicle.
- **Engine (hp):** 2.0-litre DOHC four-cylinder (148).
- **Transmissions:** Five-speed manual; continuously variable (opt.)
- **Market Position:** Compact sport utility vehicles such as the Outlander-based RVR provide a bit more ruggedness than their wagon counterparts with optional all-wheel-drive and generally make more practical and all-weather useful.
- **Points:** Reducing length of the Outlander actually does make the RVR appear sportier; Lancer Evolution nose clip a bit misleading, unless Mitsubishi plans introducing performance upgrade.
- **Safety:** Front airbags; side-impact airbags; side-curtain airbags; anti-lock brakes; traction control; stability control.
- **Stats:** L/100 km (city/hwy) 8.7/6.4 (MT)
- **Base price:** $23,450 (Including destination).

5 drive

## By comparison

**Hyundai Tucson**
Base price: $22,800
Sharp-looking second-generation model has become a popular choice.

**Jeep Compass**
Base price: $17,200
A low price is this small ute's primary appeal. For on-road use only.

**Volkswagen Tiguan**
Base price: $29,500
Powerful turbo engine and high-quality interior worth the premium price.

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# MICRO-VANS READY TO KICK SOME BUTT

Auto Pilot

MIKE GOETZ
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**The minivan gets no respect. It is the Rodney Dangerfield of vehicles, as in ... "When I was born I was so ugly the doctor slapped my mother."**

Minivans were never cool, even in the '80s and '90s, when they ruled the land, because baby boomers began to breed like rabbits, and needed some wheels to take their offspring to organized activities.

As soon as there were cooler looking people-mover alternatives — first SUVs, then crossovers — minivan sales tanked. Adding to the slide were baby boomers moving out of their family-raising years.

Many major automakers don't even offer a minivan anymore (Chevrolet, Ford, Hyundai, etc.). But a new chapter has just opened for the minivan and it looks exciting. Okay maybe not bungee-jumping exciting — but interesting at least. They're calling them micro-vans but they're not really that "micro." I guess this is just to signify they are smaller than "regular" minivans.

All of them feature three rows of seating, sliding rear doors, and are based on C-segment vehicles, which are compacts like Mazda3, Ford Focus and Chevrolet Cruze.

For a time, Mazda5 was the only micro-van in our market. The Kia Rondo joined the festivities, though its low, low profile didn't add much notoriety to the segment.

But now there is lots of micro-van action.

Not only is there an all-new 2012 Mazda5 coming early in the new year, but also both Ford and Chevrolet will jump into the segment during 2011.

The Ford C-Max will be the first vehicle in this market to offer the automaker's new 1.6-litre EcoBoost four-cylinder engine, which features both turbocharging and direct injection. Ford suggests an EcoBoost-equipped C-Max will deliver the best highway fuel economy of any seven-seat vehicle in the market.

Chevrolet's upcoming micro-van, the Orlando, debuts first in Europe then arrives in Canada by summer.

The Orlando will not be available in the U.S, which speaks volumes about how GM recognizes our tendency toward practicality and good sense — something Canadians should take pride in.

Micro-vans give you a lot of vehicle for their footprint. They also appeal to a wide demographic — empty nesters, dog owners, active-lifestyle types, families on a budget, and to a growing number of buyers of any stripe who need a bit of room but recognize that one doesn't always have to super-size.

Mazda Canada was in fact, very conscious of not making its new Mazda5 bigger than the last one. "We resisted that temptation, because the concept works beautifully as it is," says Greg Young, Mazda Canada's PR director.

Young adds that Mazda welcomes the competition: "For a long while it was just us talking about the merits of a six-passenger compact van, now lots of people will."

▶ Say hello to the Ford Grand C-Max.

# Forget wires: Just drop it and charge it

**Audi developing system that would make mobile device-charging a cinch**

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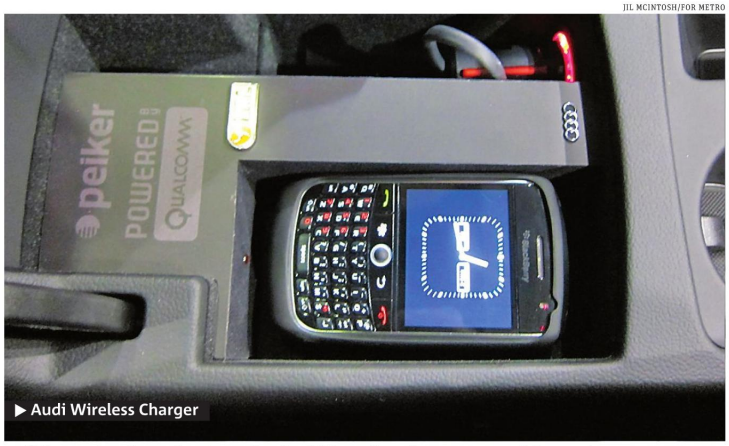


▶ Audi Wireless Charger

It's likely that if you use a cell phone or other mobile device, you've probably charged it in your car.

And you may have seen wireless chargers that charge the devices by putting them on a special surface. Now, Audi is experimenting with a system that charges your phone wireless through your car.

Once you've put your phone into a special form-fitting case, you simply drop into the console.

"It's a magnetic resonance charger," says Jonathan Lee, senior engineer at Audi's electronics research lab in Palo Alto, California.

"The technology for the charging is in the case. There's a coil with its own controller technology in the case, and there's a base station in the car mounted in the centre console. It was developed by Qualcomm, a semiconductor manufacturing company in the U.S., and we have an engineer at our lab who's been working with them for the last year.

Right now the phone would always have to wear the little cover, but they're working with manufacturers to have (the coil) built into the cell phone."

Magnetic resonance doesn't require that the coil and base station be aligned. Rather than docking the phone into a special position, you can simply drop it into the console, so it will charge even if it's upside down.

The charging "signal" can travel about four to six centimetres.

Audi's demonstration vehicle had its base station mounted in the console storage box, but Lee says that depending on where it's situated in the vehicle, it could be possible to charge the phone by dropping it into the cupholder or leaving it on the centre console.

"This system also compensates for having other metals nearby," Lee says.

"You can drop your keys or coins in, and you don't have to remove everything to make a clean surface. You can just drop the phone in and go.

"It's also compatible with Bluetooth, so you can take a call while it's charging."

Lee says that the system will be available to consumers at some time in the future.

## Magnetic miracle

With so much of our technology now wireless, it's inevitable that consumers want to recharge their electronic devices without plugging in a charger.

Electromagnetic induction is an effective system — it's how your cordless phone recharges when you dock it — but the transmitter and receiver need to be aligned.

Magnetic resonance doesn't require alignment, which makes it convenient and also capable of charging several devices at once.

Since it can transmit electricity over several metres, researchers are also looking at magnetic resonance as a possible way of recharging electric cars.

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toy mountain

Donate a new unwrapped toy at your Toronto Area Ford Store and you'll get a chance to win a new 2011 Fiesta SES.

## FORD LETS YOU RECYCLE YOUR 2003 OR OLDER VEHICLE & GET UP TO $3,300^ TOWARDS MOST NEW FORD VEHICLES.

This offer is in addition to incentives currently offered when combined with the $300 available from the Retire Your Ride program, funded by the Government of Canada on qualifying vehicles of model year 1995 or older. Incentives range from $1000 to $3000. Visit www.ford.ca for details.

In Partnership with Summerhill IMPACT, Car Heaven, Retire Your Ride Canada's Vehicle Recycling Program

Our advertised prices include Freight, Air Tax, and the Stewardship Ontario Environmental Fee. Add dealer administration and registration fees of up to $799, fuel fill charge of up to $120 and applicable taxes, then drive away.†

**HURRY, IT'S 2011 TODAY. BUT IT WON'T BE FOR LONG. VISIT YOUR TORONTO AREA FORD STORE TODAY.**

Ford

**Drive one.**

torontoforddealers.ca

Dealer may sell or lease for less. Limited time offers. Offers may be cancelled at any time without notice. See your Ford Dealer for complete details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. *Receive 0% APR purchase financing on new 2011 Ford Edge (excluding SE); Flex (excluding SE); Fusion (excluding S); Taurus (excluding SE); Flex (excluding SE); Escape (excluding I4 manual); Focus (excluding S1); models for a maximum of (48/60/72) months to qualified retail customers, on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify. Down payment may be required based on approved credit. Cost of borrowing is $0 for 72/72/72 months with a down payment of $0/$0/$0 or equivalent trade-in. Down payment may be required based on approved credit. Cost of borrowing is $128/$125/$173/$190 for 72/72/72/72 months with a down payment of $0/$0/$0 or equivalent trade-in. Down payment may be required based on approved credit. Cost of borrowing is $1,689/$0/$2,309/$2,511 or APR of 2.99%/0%/2.99%/2.99% and total to be repaid is $9,968/$9,500/$12,988/$13,640. All offers include Freight, air tax, PPSA and Stewardship Ontario Environmental Fee but exclude administration and registration fees of up to $799, fuel fill charge of up to $120 and all applicable taxes. Taxes are payable on the full amount of the purchase price. Bi-Weekly payments are only available using a customer initiated PC (Internet Banking) or Phone Pay system through the customer's own bank (if offered by that financial institution). The customer is required to sign a monthly payment contract and furnish a cheque in the amount of the first bi-weekly payment on the contract date. Subsequent bi-weekly payments will be made via a PC or Phone Pay system commencing 2 weeks following the contract date. ▼ Program in effect from Oct. 1/10, to Jan. 3/11 (the "Program Period"). To qualify for a Ford Recycle Your Ride Program ("RYR") rebate ("Rebate(s)"), customer must qualify for and take part in either the "Retire Your Ride Program" delivered by Summerhill Impact with financial support from the Government of Canada, or Summerhill Impact's "Car Heaven Program." To qualify for the "Retire Your Ride Program", which offers $300 cash or rebate on the purchase of a 2004 or newer vehicle, customer must turn in a 1995 model year or older vehicle in running condition (able to start and move) which has been properly registered and insured for the last 6 months (12 months in B.C.) to an authorized recycler. To qualify for the "Car Heaven Program", customer must turn in a 2003 model year or older vehicle in running condition which has been registered and insured for the last 6 months to an authorized recycler. If a customer qualifies for Car Heaven or Retire Your Ride, Ford of Canada ("Ford") will provide an additional Rebate, with the purchase or lease of an eligible new 2010/2011 Ford or Lincoln vehicle, in the amount of $1,000 CDN (Focus (excluding 2015 S), Fusion (excluding 2015 S), Mustang (excluding Shelby GT500 and 2011 Value Leader), Transit Connect, Ranger (excluding 2011 XL) $2,000 CDN (Taurus (excluding 2011 SE), Escape (excluding 2011 SE), Flex (excluding 2011 SE), Explorer (excluding 2011 Base models), Sport Trac), or $3,000 CDN (F150 (excluding Raptor and 2011 Regular Cab XL and x2), F250-550, E-Series, Expedition, MKZ, MKS, MKT, Navigator) (each an "Eligible Vehicle"). Rebate amount may be used as a down payment. Taxes payable before Rebate amount is deducted. RYR Rebates are available to qualified retail customers (including Commercial Fleet customers) in Canada (excluding Quebec) and cannot be combined with most retail consumer offers made available by Ford at either the time of factory order or delivery, but not both. This offer can be used in conjunction with the Commercial Fleet Program. For small fleets with an eligible RYR, this offer can be used in conjunction with the Small Business Incentive Program (SBIP). Offers not combinable with any GPA/GPC or Daily Rental incentives or the Commercial Fleet Incentive Program (CFIP). Customer may use the $1,000 CDN as a down payment or choose to receive a rebate cheque from Ford, but not both. Applicable taxes calculated before $1,000 CDN offer is deducted. Dealer may sell or lease for less. Limited time offer, see dealer for details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. ©2010 Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited. All rights reserved. Membership Number. Offer is transferable to members domiciled with an eligible Costco member. This offer can be used in conjunction with most retail consumer offers made available by Ford at either the time of factory order (if ordered within the Costco Offer Period) or delivery, but not both. This offer can be used in conjunction with the Commercial Connection Program. For small fleets with an eligible RYR, this offer can be used in conjunction with the Small Business Incentive Program (SBIP). Offers not combinable with any GPA/GPC or Daily Rental incentives or the Commercial Fleet Incentive Program (CFIP). Customer may use the $1,000 CDN as a down payment or choose to receive a rebate cheque from Ford, but not both. Applicable taxes calculated before $1,000 CDN offer is deducted. Dealer may sell or lease for less. Limited time offer, see dealer for details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. ©2010 Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited. All rights reserved. "Estimated fuel consumption ratings for the 2011 Ford Fiesta 1.6L I-4 Manual/Focus 2.0L I-4 Manual/Fusion FWD 2.5L I-4 Automatic. Fuel consumption ratings based on Transport Canada approved test methods. Actual fuel consumption may vary based on road conditions, vehicle loading and driving habits. ^^NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Open only to legal residents of Ontario who have reached 18 years of age. Five (5) prizes will be awarded in Ontario consisting of one (1) new 2011 Ford Fiesta SES 5 Door Automatic with Winter Safety Package (approx. retail value of CDN$21,929 based on MSRP) and four (4) $1000 cash prizes. Odds of being selected as a finalist are solely dependent on the total number of ballots received. Odds of winning the vehicle prize as a finalist are 1 in 5. Contest closes Dec. 18/10. Skill-testing question required. Prize may not be exactly as shown. See dealer for full contest rules.

# The Christmas rush

## Just because you're out of time doesn't mean we're out of ideas

If you're one of those last-minute shoppers, congratulations, you're right on time.

But perhaps you're not the procrastinator your better half accuses you of being and you're just lacking for interesting and out-of-the-box ideas.

Let the following be inspiration. Most products here — selected from the thousands we've seen — are available straight from the manufacturer, but that doesn't mean you can't source out similar products locally (these are merely intended to be ideas, after all) if you would prefer to support your local businesses and economy.

JEFF MELNYCHUK/ WHEELBASE MEDIA

PHOTOS BY WHEELBASE MEDIA

**Tire shine lasts months:**
Tire Brite includes a cleaner to remove all traces of previous silicone dressings, and then you sponge on a proprietary dressing, providing up to six months of shine. Kits costa about $25 plus $10 shipping, powersheen.com.

**Apple iPad as a gauge?**
The DashCommand interface by Palmer Performance Engineering turns the Apple iPad into a high-resolution display to keep tabs on how your vehicle is performing. Available from the Apple App Store for $50 US (plus hardware from Palmer) — and for the iPhone as well — Dash Command software taps into the iPad's built-in GPS and accelerometer functions to provide motion-based activity read-outs as well as fuel consumption. Head to palmerperformance.com.

**Let there be light:**
FLEXiT's silicone pad has 16 wide-angle light-emitting diode (LED) bulbs that can be set to low-, medium-, or high-output. You can bend, fold, twist and shape the pad in whatever configuration necessary. There are two magnets to secure the pad to a metal object plus a loop for hanging the lights. FLEXiT is $30 from striker1.com.

**Small-scale speeding:**
The Hot Wheels Radar Gun will measure the speed, either in 1/64th scale (the size of most Hot Wheels cars), or in full-scale miles (or kilometres) per hour. The product works just like the detector used by law enforcement agencies, except that the Hot Wheels version is limited to 100 mph (106 km/h). Check it out at mattel.com, or order one for about $50 through 99.shopping.com.

**It's in the bag:**
The Automotive Catch-All from Case Logic is a stretchy neoprene pouch with a bendable arm that allows it to be attached to various spots on or near your car's dashboard. You can order one in black, grey or taupe for about $6, caselogic.com/automotive.

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YEAR END CLEARANCE
FINANCING FROM 1.9% ON ALL PRE-OWNED HONDA CERTIFIED CIVICS, ACCORDS AND CRVS • OVER 45 IN STOCK TO CHOOSE FROM!
2007 HONDA CIVIC 4 door automatic P7214 $0 DOWN $98 Bi-weekly $11,588 +HST 72 months 5.5% APR Taxes included OAC
2008 HONDA ACCORD 4 door automatic P7215 $0 DOWN $168 Bi-weekly $19,688 +HST 72 months 5.5% APR Taxes included OAC
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MIDTOWN Honda Customer Driven
Christmas Special Coupon
FREE PROTECTION PACKAGE ON ALL PRE-OWNED VEHICLES ($379 value)
Coupon must be presented at time of sale. Valid until DEC. 31/2010.
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NO PAYMENTS 90 DAYS
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PURCHASE FINANCING 0.9%
THE NEW 2011 CIVIC SPECIAL EDITIONS $21,110 MSRP Includes Freight & Fees $248@4.9%
THE NEW 2011 ACCORD SPECIAL EDITIONS $26,475 MSRP Includes Freight & Fees $328@4.9%
PRESENTING THE 2011 CR-V Enriched style and utility for families on the move. $28,015 MSRP Includes Freight & Fees $328@2.9%
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#Lease and finance offers are based on new 2011 Honda models. Lease examples based on new 2011 Civic Sedan SE: model FA1E6BJX / 2011 Accord Sedan SE: model CP2E6BE / 2011 CR-V LX 2WD: model RE3H3BEY available through Honda Financial Services on approved credit. £4.9% / 4.9% / 2.9% lease APR for 48 / 48 / 36 months. Monthly payment (includes freight and PDI, environmental fees and OMVIC fee) is $247.93 / $328.42 / $327.79. Down payment or equivalent trade of $2,550.00 / $2,750.00 / $3,925.00, first monthly payment and $0 / $0 / $0 security deposit due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $16,464.22 / $21,056.00 / $17,904.75. Taxes, license, insurance and lien registration (if applicable) are extra. 96,000 / 96,000 / 72,000 kilometre allowance; charge of $0.12/km for excess kilometres. †Limited time financing offer based on new 2011 Honda models. Finance example based on new 2011 Civic Sedan SE: model FA1E6BJX available through Honda Financial Services on approved credit. MSRP is $21,110.00 (includes $1,530.00 freight and PDI, environmental and OMVIC fees) financed at 0.9% APR equals $887.85 per month for 24 months. Cost of borrowing is $198.46 for a total obligation of $21,308.46. Taxes, license, insurance and lien registration (if applicable) are extra. MSRP is $26,475.00 / $28,015.00 for a new 2011 Accord Sedan SE: model CP2E6BE / 2011 CR-V LX 2WD: model RE3H3BEY and includes $1,885.00 / $1,725.00 freight and PDI, environmental and OMVIC fees. License, insurance, lien registration (if applicable) and taxes are extra. No payments for 90 days offer applies to purchase finance offers on all new 2010 and 2011 models purchased and delivered by January 3rd, 2011. Offer available only through Honda Financial Services on approved credit. Monthly payments are deferred for 90 days. Contracts will be extended accordingly. Interest charge (if any) will not accrue during the first 60 days of the contract. After 60 days, interest (if any) starts to accrue and the purchaser will repay principal and interest (if any) monthly over the term of the contract. $500.00 Cash Bonus offer applies only to retail customer purchase, lease or finance agreements on select new 2010 and 2011 Civic, Accord and CR-V models. Cash Bonus offer includes HST/GST where applicable. Valid only on purchase, lease or finance agreements concluded at Centre Honda. ◊No purchase necessary. Open to residents of Ontario (age of majority) who are the parent/legal guardian of a child 12 years of age or under. One entry per child. Contest ends December 31st, 2010 at 11:59:59 p.m. ET. Visit www.hondaontario.com/newspaper for full prize descriptions and contest rules. #£' /†' Offers valid from December 1st, 2010 through January 3rd, 2011 at Centre Honda. Offers valid only for Ontario residents at Centre Honda. Offers subject to change or cancellation without notice. Visit www.CentreHonda.com or see Centre Honda for full details.

Bring home a HONDA

# YOU CAN GET WHAT YOU WANT, WHAT YOU REALLY REALLY WANT

## NO PAYMENTS FOR 90 DAYS

ON ALL NEW 2010 & 2011 HONDA PURCHASES∑

AN ADDITIONAL $500 CASH BONUS¥ ON CIVIC, ACCORD & CR-V

## PURCHASE FINANCING AS LOW AS 0.9%†

FOR 24 MONTHS ON NEW CIVIC, ACCORD AND CR-V

2011 Civic SE model FAIE6BJX

2011 Accord SE model CP2E6BE

2011 CR-V LX model RE3H3BEY

## THE NEW 2011 CIVIC SPECIAL EDITIONS

- 1.8L 140hp i-VTEC® Engine
- Power Moonroof with Tilt Feature
- Air Conditioning
- Cruise Control
- 16" Aluminum Alloy Wheels
- Chrome Exhaust Finisher
- USB Device Connnector
- Power Locks
- Keyless Remote with Electronic Trunk Release
- Front & Rear Disc Brakes

...and much more.

***$21,110*** *MSRP‡*
*Includes Freight & Fees*

LEASE FOR/APR
**$248@4.9%£**
PER MONTH FOR 48 MONTHS WITH $2,550 DOWN ON APPROVED CREDIT
**INCLUDES FREIGHT & FEES**
CIVIC MODELS AVAILABLE AS LOW AS $16,420

## THE NEW 2011 ACCORD SPECIAL EDITIONS

- 2.4L 177hp i-VTEC® Engine
- Air Conditioning
- 16" Aluminum Alloy Wheels
- Bluetooth® HandsFreeLink®
- Premium Audio System with Subwoofer
- 8-Way Power Driver's Seat
- Power Windows with Auto Up/Down...and much more.

***$26,475*** *MSRP‡*
*Includes Freight & Fees*

LEASE FOR/APR
**$328@4.9%£**
PER MONTH FOR 48 MONTHS WITH $2,750 DOWN ON APPROVED CREDIT
**INCLUDES FREIGHT & FEES**

## PRESENTING THE 2011 CR-V

**Enriched style and utility for families on the move.**

- 2.4L 180hp i-VTEC® Engine
- Remote Entry System
- 17" Aluminum Alloy Wheels
- 160-Watt AM/FM/CD/MP3/WMA Audio System
- Vehicle Stability Assist (VSA®) with Traction Control
- Air Conditioning with Air Filtration

...and much more.

***$28,015*** *MSRP‡*
*Includes Freight & Fees*

LEASE FOR/APR
**$328@2.9%£**
PER MONTH FOR 36 MONTHS WITH $3,925 DOWN ON APPROVED CREDIT
**INCLUDES FREIGHT & FEES**

## Get your kids to colour and win great prizes.◊

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#Lease and finance offers are based on new 2011 Honda models. Lease examples based on new 2011 Civic Sedan SE, model FA1E6BJX / 2011 Accord Sedan SE, model CP2E6BE / 2011 CR-V LX 2WD, model RE3H3BEY available through Honda Financial Services on approved credit. £4.9% / 4.9% / 2.9% lease APR for 48 / 48 / 36 months. Monthly payment (includes freight and PDI, environmental fees and OMVIC fee) is $247.93 / $328.42/ $327.79. Down payment or equivalent trade of $2,550.00 / $2,750.00 / $3,925.00, first monthly payment and $0 / $0 / $0 security deposit due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $16,464.22 / $21,056.00 / $17,904.75. Taxes, license, insurance and lien registration (if applicable) are extra. 96,000 / 96,000 / 72,000 kilometre allowance; charge of $0.12/km for excess kilometres. Retailer may lease for less. Retailer order / trade may be necessary. †Limited time financing offer based on new 2011 Honda models. Finance example based on new 2011 Civic Sedan SE, model FA1E6BJX available through Honda Financial Services on approved credit. ‡MSRP is $21,110.00 (includes $1,530.00 freight and PDI, environmental and OMVIC fees) financed at 0.9% APR equals $887.85 per month for 24 months. Cost of borrowing is $198.46 for a total obligation of $21,308.46. Taxes, license, insurance and lien registration (if applicable) are extra. MSRP is $26,475.00 / $28,015.00 for a new 2011 Accord Sedan SE, model CP2E6BE / 2011 CR-V LX 2WD, model RE3H3BEY and includes $1,685.00 / $1,725.00 freight and PDI, environmental and OMVIC fees. License, insurance, lien registration (if applicable) and taxes are extra. Retailer may sell for less. Retailer order / trade may be necessary. ∑No payments for 90 days offer applies to purchase finance offers on all new 2010 and 2011 models purchased and delivered by January 3rd, 2011. Offer available only through Honda Financial Services on approved credit. Monthly payments are deferred for 90 days. Contracts will be extended accordingly. Interest charge (if any) will not accrue during the first 60 days of the contract. After 60 days, interest (if any) starts to accrue and the purchaser will repay principal and interest (if any) monthly over the term of the contract. ¥$500.00 Cash Bonus offer applies only to retail customer purchase, lease or finance agreements on select new 2010 and 2011 Civic, Accord and CR-V models. Cash Bonus offer includes HST/GST where applicable. Valid only on purchase, lease or finance agreements concluded at participating Honda retailers. ◊No purchase necessary. Open to residents of Ontario (age of majority) who are the parent/legal guardian of a child 12 years of age or under. One entry per child. Contest ends December 31st, 2010 at 11:59:59 p.m. ET. Visit www.hondaontario.com/newspaper for full prize descriptions and contest rules. #/£/∑/†/¥Offers valid from December 1st, 2010 through January 3rd, 2011 at participating Honda retailers. Offers valid only for Ontario residents at Ontario Honda Dealers locations. Offers subject to change or cancellation without notice. Visit www.HondaOntario.com or see your Honda retailer for full details.

# Safety, security and space

**Think 'transmission' when shopping for a used Volvo V70**

Volvo V70

## SECOND GEAR

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

Recognized as a world-leader in occupant protection, models from the Volvo brand are often sought out by shoppers prioritizing safety on the move.

Safety is serious business for the Swedes, and a Volvo wagon's always been a sure way to get the wife and kids around with plenty of peace of mind.

The second-generation Volvo V70 was a wagon available to Canadian shoppers from 2001 to 2007 model years inclusive. A more rugged "Cross Country" variant of the V70, called the XC70, was also available. Where confident all-season family travels are concerned, these two machines really hit the mark.

**The 4-1-1**

- **Model:** 2001 to 2007 Volvo V70/XC70
- **Vehicle Type:** Wagon/crossover wagon
- **Approximate used price range:** $6,000 to $18,000

All models got five-cylinder power from a range of naturally-aspirated and turbocharged engines outputting between 168 and 247 ponies. Manual or automatic transmissions were available, as was All Wheel Drive (AWD), depending on the model in question. Ultimately, the V70, XC70 and even S60 sedan in this generation shared virtually the same hardware under their skin.

Inside, look for flexible interior space, a generous cargo hold and plenty of storage to keep occupants organized. Volvo wagons are known for a solid, quiet ride and bolted-down feel of security and plantedness, and this generation is no exception.

**What Owners Like**

Comfort, handling and security are all highly rated by owners, as is interior space, design, and drivetrain refinement.

**What Owners Hate**

Some owners report that careful and light-footed driving is required to achieve good mileage. Owners of models with the lower-output powerplants typically wish for more performance.

**Common Issues**

Considering a used Volvo wagon in this generation? Think "transmission". Numerous owners have reported gearbox issues that have required replacement, sometimes more than once. This well-documented problem means ensuring proper transmission integrity is vital to a successful purchase.

**The Verdict**

To the majority of V70s and XC70 owners, the driving experience and confidence more than compensate for potential issues. All said, used shoppers should shop patiently and carefully, get service records and look for a model that's familiar to their local Volvo dealer. Be sure to snatch up any extended powertrain warranties that may be available.

Just to be safe.

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Seasoned Turkey Breast, Cranberry Sauce, Stuffing, Romaine Lettuce, and Grilled Onions.
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MAKE IT A COMBO FOR ONLY A TOONIE MORE
&
GET A 2011 CALENDAR FOR FREE!

STUDENTS ALSO RECEIVE A 2011 STUDENT DISCOUNT CARD WITH THIS OFFER.

*The offer above is valid only between December 1st to 31st 2010 at the Atrium on Bay Location. While quantities last*

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Visit us online @ www.fitforlifefood.com

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# 90 DAYS

Interest Accrues During Deferral Period*

AND

## Up To $10,000 | 0% Purchase Financing On Select Models**

On 2010 Silverado 1500

Cash Credits Including Up To $1,500 Holiday Bonus♦

## 2011 CHEVROLET MALIBU LS

PURCHASE PRICE **$24,495*** | FINANCING **0% FOR 48 MONTHS‡**

ALL OFFERS INCLUDE FREIGHT, PDI, FEES & $1,000 TOTAL CASH CREDITS♦.
OR ASK ABOUT NO PAYMENTS FOR 90 DAYS.

OR VARIABLE RATE FINANCING

**$149 BI-WEEKLY AT 3.0% FOR 84 MONTHS¥**

$0 DOWN PAYMENT. TAXES NOT INCLUDED.

*Better Highway Fuel Efficiency than Camry and Fusion ΔΔ*

LT PLATINUM EDITION SHOWN††

HWY: 5.9 L/100 km – 48 mpg
CITY: 9.4 L/100 km – 30 mpg§

$1,500 GM CARD MAX. REDEMPTION ALLOWANCE†

## 2011 CHEVROLET EQUINOX LS

PURCHASE PRICE **$25,995*** | FINANCING **2.9% FOR 48 MONTHS‡**

ALL OFFERS INCLUDE FREIGHT, PDI, FEES & $1,000 TOTAL CASH CREDITS♦.
OR ASK ABOUT NO PAYMENTS FOR 90 DAYS.

OR VARIABLE RATE FINANCING

**$159 BI-WEEKLY AT 3.0% FOR 84 MONTHS¥**

$0 DOWN PAYMENT. TAXES NOT INCLUDED.

HWY: 6.19 L/100 km – 46 mpg
CITY: 9.2 L/100 km – 31 mpg§

$1,500 GM CARD MAX. REDEMPTION ALLOWANCE†

*Equinox gets better highway fuel efficiency than CR-V, RAV4 or even Escape Hybrid ΔΔ*

LTZ MODEL SHOWN††

RECYCLE YOUR 1995 OR OLDER VEHICLE AND RECEIVE UP TO $3300▼▼ IN ADDITIONAL CASH INCENTIVES.

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Retire Your Ride – Canada's Vehicle Recycling Program

Summerhill IMPACT

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Prices do not include applicable taxes and PPSA. Consumers may be required to pay up to $799 for Dealer fees.***

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GM

For the latest information, visit us at chevrolet.ca, drop by your local Chevrolet Dealer or call us at 1-800- GM- DRIVE. ♦$10,000/$1,000/$1,000/$1,000 manufacturer to dealer delivery credit, which includes maximum Holiday Bonus $1,500/$1,000/$1,000 available on 2010 Chevrolet Silverado 1500/2011 Chevrolet Malibu/2011 Chevrolet Equinox (tax exclusive) for retail customers only effected in offers in this advertisement. Other cash credits, including Holiday Bonus, available on most models. $1,300/$1,000 Holiday Bonus available on 2010/2011 models. Offers valid to January 17, 2011. Dealer order (2011MY only) or trade may be required. Limited quantities of certain 2010 models. GMCL may modify or terminate offers in whole in part at any time without notice. See dealer for details. *Offer applies to the purchase of 2011 Chevrolet Malibu LS 1KT07/Equinox LS FWD (1TA, 2NA) or Chevrolet Malibu LS 1KT07/Equinox LS FWD (1TA, 2NA) by any Credit. Rates from other lenders will vary. Example: $10,000 at 0%/2.9% APR, monthly payment is $208.33/$220.90 for 48 months. Cost of borrowing is $0/$603.20, total obligation is $10,000/$10,603.20. Down payment and/or trade may be required. Monthly payment and cost of borrowing will also vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment made. Variable rate financing for 24 months on 2011 Malibu LS 1KT07/Equinox LS FWD (1TA, 2NA) only. Example: $10,000 at 3% for 84 months, the monthly payment is $122.13, cost of borrowing is $1,258.92, total obligation is $11,258.92. Down payment and/or trade may be required. Monthly payments and cost of borrowing will also vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment made. Offers may be combined with other offers. GMCL may modify, extend or terminate offers in whole or in part at any time without notice. Conditions and details: ***Factory order or dealer trade may be required. Limited time offers which may not be combined with other offers. GMCL may modify, extend or terminate offers in whole or in part at any time without notice. Conditions and limitations apply. See your dealer for conditions and details. ΔΔ2011 Chevrolet Malibu and Equinox based on GM Testing in accordance with approved Transport Canada test methods. Your actual fuel consumption may vary. ΔΔ2011 Chevrolet Malibu with 6-speed automatic transmission and 2.4L Ecotec engine and comparably equipped (4 cyl. automatic transmission) 2011 Toyota Camry and 2011 Ford Fusion. Fuel consumption ratings based on Natural Resources Canada's 2010 Fuel Consumption Guide. Your actual fuel consumption may vary. ΔΔ2011 Chevrolet Equinox FWD equipped with standard 2.4L EDOTEC-I 4 engine. Fuel consumption ratings based on GM testing in accordance with approved Transport Canada test methods. Competitive fuel ratings based on Natural Resources Canada's 2010 Fuel Consumption Guide. Your actual fuel consumption may vary. ΔΔ2011 Chevrolet Malibu LS 1KT07 with Freight, PDI & fees $23,244. Dealers are free to set individual prices. †Subject to Vehicle Redemption Allowances. Visit thegmcard.ca for more details including terms and conditions that apply to The GM Card Earnings and Redemption Program. The Toronto-Dominion Bank and its affiliates are not responsible for the GM Card Earnings and Redemption Program. ††Chevrolet Malibu LT Platinum Edition, MSRP with Freight, PDI & fees $29,488. 2011 Chevrolet Equinox LT 2JNSP with Freight, PDI & fees $33,244. Dealers are free to set individual prices. ‡‡3% purchase financing offered by GMCL for 72 months on 2010 Chevrolet Malibu/Impala and for 48 months on 2011 Malibu, GMC Terrain and Buick LaCrosse. Rates from other lenders will vary. Example: $10,000 at 3% APR, monthly payment is $138.08/$208.33 for 72/48 months. Cost of borrowing is $0, total obligation is $10,000. Down payment and/or trade may be required. Monthly payment and cost of borrowing will vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment made. ¥Variable rate financing for 24 months on 2011 Malibu LS 1KT07/Equinox LS FWD (1TA, 2NA) only. Example: $10,000 at 3% for 84 months, the monthly payment is $122.13, cost of borrowing is $1,258.92, total obligation is $11,258.92. Down payment and/or trade may be required. Monthly payments and cost of borrowing will also vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment made. Offers may be combined with other offers. GMCL may modify, extend or terminate offers in whole or in part at any time without notice. Conditions and limitations apply. See your dealer for conditions and details. ΔΔ2011 Chevrolet Malibu with 6-speed automatic transmission and 2.4L Ecotec engine and comparably equipped (4 cyl. automatic transmission) 2011 Toyota Camry and 2011 Ford Fusion. Fuel consumption ratings based on Natural Resources Canada Fuel Consumption Website. Highway fuel consumption as low as 5.9 L/100km. City fuel consumption as low as 9.4 L/100km. Your actual fuel consumption may vary. Excludes hybrid models. 2011 Chevrolet Equinox FWD equipped with standard 2.4L EDOTEC-I 4 engine. Fuel consumption ratings based on GM testing in accordance with approved Transport Canada test methods. Competitive fuel ratings based on Natural Resources Canada's 2010 Fuel Consumption Guide. Your actual fuel consumption may vary. §Based on Natural Resources Canada's 2010 Fuel Consumption Guide. Your actual fuel consumption may vary. ΔΔ2011 Chevrolet Malibu with 6-speed automatic transmission and 2.4L Ecotec engine and comparably equipped (4 cyl. automatic transmission) 2011 Toyota Camry and 2011 Ford Fusion. Fuel consumption ratings based on Natural Resources Canada Fuel Consumption Website. Highway fuel consumption as low as 5.9 L/100km. City fuel consumption as low as 9.4 L/100km. Your actual fuel consumption may vary. Excludes hybrid models. 2011 Chevrolet Equinox FWD equipped with standard 2.4L EDOTEC-I 4 engine. Fuel consumption ratings based on GM testing in accordance with approved Transport Canada test methods. Competitive fuel ratings based on Natural Resources Canada's 2010 Fuel Consumption Guide. Your actual fuel consumption may vary. ©The Best Buy Stall is a registered trademark of Consumers Digest Communications, LLC, used under license. ©Chevrolet Malibu and Equinox are an Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) Top Safety Pick for 2010. For more information go to www.iihs.org. †12011 Chevrolet Malibu LT Platinum Edition, MSRP with Freight, PDI & fees $29,488. 2011 Chevrolet Equinox LT 2JNSP with Freight, PDI & fees $33,244. Dealers are free to set individual prices. ‡Subject to Vehicle Redemption Allowances. Visit thegmcard.ca for more details including terms and conditions that apply to The GM Card Earnings and Redemption Program. The Toronto-Dominion Bank and its affiliates are not responsible for the GM Card Earnings and Redemption Program. ‡‡3% purchase financing offered by GMCL for 72 months on 2010 Chevrolet Malibu/Impala and for 48 months on 2011 Malibu, GMC Terrain and Buick LaCrosse. Rates from other lenders will vary. Example: $10,000 at 0%/4.9% APR, monthly payment is $138.08/$208.33 for 72/48 months. Cost of borrowing is $0, total obligation is $10,000. Down payment and/or trade may be required. Monthly payment and cost of borrowing will vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment made. ¥Variable rate financing for 24 months on 2011 Malibu LS 1KT07/Equinox LS FWD (1TA, 2NA) only. Example: $10,000 at 3% for 84 months, the monthly payment is $122.13, cost of borrowing is $1,258.92, total obligation is $11,258.92. Down payment and/or trade may be required. Monthly payments and cost of borrowing will also vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment made. 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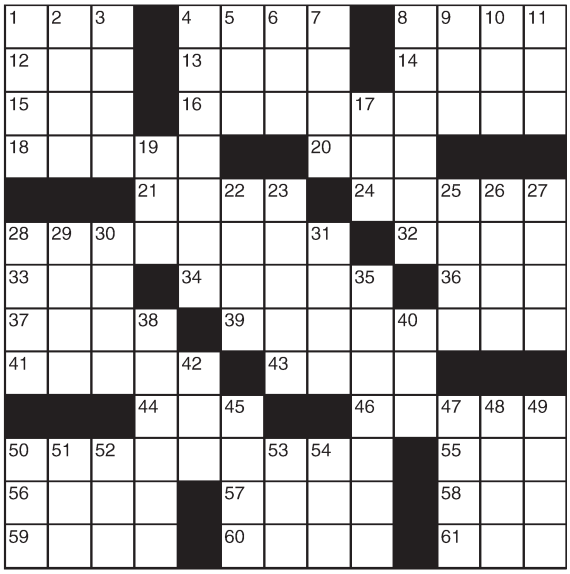
On your way home tonight, pick up Toronto's newest FREE DAILY metro play from one of our METRO PLAY AMBASSADORS around the downtown Toronto core!

## Crossword



**Across**

1 Request
4 Movie pig
8 Interoffice note
12 Writer Buscaglia
13 In due time
14 Ahmadinejad's land
15 Coffee vessel
16 Runner
18 Source of igneous rock
20 Spotted
21 Spheres
24 Parade
28 Confirm
32 Harvard rival
33 — carte
34 Baghdad resident
36 Sailor
37 Hard work
39 Flood
41 Rio Grande feeder
43 Casino cubes
44 Poolroom tool
46 Robbery
50 Convert to cash
55 "— Town"
56 Burden
57 Grand tale
58 Pugilists' org.
59 Summertime pest
60 Bottle part
61 Cleopatra's slayer

**Down**

1 Astringent
2 Antitoxins
3 "King —"
4 Rival of Captain Morgan
5 Santa —
6 "— voyage!"
7 Concludes
8 Carnival area
9 Historic period
10 Wrestling surface
11 Inseparable
17 "— the Walrus"
19 Miss Piggy's pronoun
22 Adriatic Sea port
23 Leave one's seat
25 Sitar music
26 Coagulate
27 "... oh, where can —?"
28 Seductress
29 Burn remedy
30 Secular
31 Iso-
35 Restrained
38 Grasshopper's cousin
40 Cee follower
42 — generis
45 Paradise
47 Corn Belt state
48 Second-stringers
49 Snare
50 Journal
51 Hostel
52 Sine-non link
53 Mimic
54 Twitch

▶ Yesterday's answer

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| C | R | A | B | | D | E | A | R | | T | W | A |
| M | O | N | O | | O | G | R | E | | W | I | G |
| T | W | I | N | P | E | A | K | S | | O | N | E |
| | | | B | A | R | D | | T | U | S | K | S |
| D | E | P | O | T | | | F | A | M | E | | |
| I | R | A | N | | S | T | A | R | W | A | R | S |
| P | S | I | | L | E | A | S | T | | T | A | I |
| S | E | R | G | E | A | N | T | | C | E | N | T |
| | | E | L | A | N | | | F | O | R | T | E |
| A | D | D | O | N | | B | A | U | M | | | |
| L | E | O | | D | O | U | B | L | E | B | E | D |
| O | A | F | | E | D | G | E | | L | I | L | Y |
| E | L | F | | R | E | S | T | | Y | O | K | E |

## Sudoku

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | | 7 | 6 | | 5 | 4 | | 9 |
| | | 3 | | | | 7 | | |
| 4 | 1 | | | | | | 6 | 3 |
| | | | 5 | | 2 | | | |
| | 6 | | | | | | 5 | |
| | | | 8 | | 1 | | | |
| 9 | 7 | | | | | | 2 | 1 |
| | | 4 | | | | 8 | | |
| 8 | | 2 | 7 | | 6 | 9 | | 4 |

### How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 2 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 5 |
| 1 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 9 | 6 |
| 9 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| 8 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 9 | 6 | 5 | 1 |
| 6 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 9 |
| 4 | 7 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 2 |
| 5 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 9 | 6 | 7 |
| 7 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 8 |
| 2 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 4 |

## Send a KISS

**Show some love! Send a note to somebody special at kiss@metronews.ca**

*Happy Birthday Steve!!! I hope you have a great day! Hopefully this year will be full of luck and happiness! I love you very much, (gach la). Will you marry me?* **KRISTEN XOXO**

*My Bella, In you I have found the love of my life. My heart skips a beat when you're near, and I am nothing but thankful for having you to share with. Looking forward to a wonderful future with you. Truly, madly, deeply,* **CHRIS**

*L.L. My darling, wanted to remind you how much I care for you, how happy I am to have you in my life, and that I look forward to every passing day with you. Loving you endlessly,* **R.B.**

*Dear Kimmy, Ever since I first laid my eyes upon you, I have been living on cloud nine. I can't wait to wake up every morning next to you for the rest of my life. Love,* **KARL.**

Today -3°/-7° Variable
Thursday -2°/-7° Variable
The Weather Network
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## Today's horoscope

*For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca*

**♈ Aries March 21-April 20** Are the conclusions you have reached about a certain situation your own conclusions, or are they ideas you have picked up from other people or from the media? Think for yourself today.

**♉ Taurus April 21-May 21** You may be tempted to do something that will gain you an advantage over your rivals, but is it ethical? If not you are strongly advised to play by the rules.

**♊ Gemini May 22-June 21** Just because the grass looks greener on the other side of the fence does not mean you have been moving in the wrong direction. All roads eventually lead to where you most need to go.

**♋ Cancer June 22-July 22** An idea or belief you have always taken for granted is beginning to show signs of wear and tear. Maybe it's time to replace it with something a bit more up to date.

**♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23** A relationship is at a turning point and what happens today or tomorrow will seal its fate one way or the other. It may not be easy to call it a day but if that's what your heart tells you then what choice do you have?

**♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22** Mercury, your ruler, is at right angles to Jupiter today, which means you will need to make an extra effort to get your message across. Make sure you shout at the right people.

**♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23** History always repeats itself, so if what you see or hear reminds you of the past make sure you act on that knowledge.

**♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22** Your trust in someone has taken a bit of a nose-dive in recent weeks and what happens today is unlikely to change your opinion that they don't know what they are doing. Keep your distance. Stupidity can be contagious.

**♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21** Take what you hear from a colleague or friend with a large pinch of salt. Mind planet Mercury, at odds with your ruler Jupiter, warns they don't know what they are talking about.

**♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20** Take the chance to go back and take care of something you should have dealt with a long time ago. If you still can't get it right then maybe it's just too much for you. Do something else.

**♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18** You may be at a loss to explain why a friend or relative is acting so strangely but you know how illogical some people can be. Not everyone shares your ability to focus only on facts.

**♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20** Hopefully you know how to keep a secret, because if you go blabbing about a friend's peccadilloes it will be you who ends up looking bad.

SALLY BROMPTON

## Caption contest

MARKUS SCHREIBER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WIN!

### You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image to the right and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

CHRISTOPHE ENA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, FILE)

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Photo by Michael Hudson

Christmas Pageant, St. Paul's Anglican Church, Bloor Street, Toronto

The Anglican Diocese of Toronto
www.toronto.anglican.ca

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EVERYBODY WINS $500 UP TO $10,000*

FINAL MONTH!

**0%** FINANCING FOR UP TO **84** MOS.** ON SELECT MODELS

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PAY UNTIL SPRING†

ALL VEHICLES INCLUDE: BLUETOOTH CONNECTIVITY° | MP3/USB INPUT

4 DOOR SEDAN

## 2011 KIA RIO

Rio EX shown

**0%** FINANCING APR FOR 84 MONTHS**

WITH PAYMENTS STARTING AS LOW AS **$181**^ PER MONTH FOR 84 MONTHS

**Offer includes:** Delivery, destination and fees **$1,489**

+ EVERYBODY WINS $500 UP TO $10,000* AND DON'T PAY UNTIL SPRING†

HWY: 5.8L/100KM (49 MPG) CITY: 7.1L/100KM (40 MPG)

60/40 SPLIT REAR FOLDING SEATS

6-WAY DRIVER'S SEAT

TOP SAFETY PICK 2010 INSURANCE INSTITUTE FOR HIGHWAY SAFETY^

WAS ~~$15,995~~

## 2011 KIA SOUL

Soul 4u shown

CASH PURCHASE PRICE FROM **$13,995**

+ Delivery, destination and fees **$1,684**

ALL-IN PRICE **$15,679**‡

NOW GET UP TO **$2,000** IN CASH SAVINGS

+ EVERYBODY WINS $500 UP TO $10,000*

HWY: 6.3L/100KM (45 MPG) CITY: 7.7L/100KM (37 MPG)

HEATED FRONT SEATS

STEERING WHEEL AUDIO CONTROLS

WAS ~~$19,995~~

## 2011 KIA RONDO

Rondo EX luxury shown

CASH PURCHASE PRICE FROM **$17,495**

+ Delivery, destination and fees **$1,684**

ALL-IN PRICE **$19,179**‡

NOW GET UP TO **$2,500** IN CASH SAVINGS

AVAILABLE COMPETITIVE BONUS **$1,000**^

+ EVERYBODY WINS $500 UP TO $10,000*

HWY: 7.4L/100KM (38 MPG) CITY: 10.6L/100KM (27 MPG)

3-ROW SEATS AVAILABLE

ELECTRONIC STABILITY AND TRACTION CONTROL

TOP SAFETY PICK 2010 INSURANCE INSTITUTE FOR HIGHWAY SAFETY^

WAS ~~$23,995~~

## 2011 KIA SORENTO

Sorento EX-V6 luxury shown

CASH PURCHASE PRICE FROM **$19,895**

+ Delivery, destination and fees **$1,784**

ALL-IN PRICE **$21,679**‡

NOW GET UP TO **$4,100** IN CASH SAVINGS

AVAILABLE COMPETITIVE BONUS **$1,000**^

+ EVERYBODY WINS $500 UP TO $10,000*

HWY: 7.4L/100KM (38 MPG) CITY: 10.6L/100KM (27 MPG)

HEATED FRONT SEATS

AIR CONDITIONING

ELECTRONIC STABILITY CONTROL

ALL-WHEEL DRIVE AVAILABLE

5 Year Warranty*

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*5-YEAR/100,000 KM WORRY-FREE COMPREHENSIVE WARRANTY
*5 YEAR/100,000 KM POWERTRAIN WARRANTY
*5-YEAR/100,000 KM EXTRA CARE ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE
*NO DEDUCTIBLE CHARGE

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Prices do not include dealer administration fees ($399-$699), licensing, PPSA, or applicable taxes.

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**0% purchase financing available on select 2010 and 2011 Kia models for up to 84 months on approved credit (OAC). 0% purchase financing available on all 2010 and 2011 Kia Rios for up to 84 months on approved credit (OAC). Financing example based on Kia Rio (RO743A) with cash purchase price of $18,534. 0% financing for 84 months. Cost of borrowing is $0. Delivery and destination fee ($1,455) and other fees ($100 + $34) included. Admin fee, license, insurance, applicable taxes, PPSA, and registration are extra. Retailer may sell for less. See dealer for full details. *"No Payments Until Spring 2011" (120 day payment deferral) applies to purchase financing offers on all new 2010 and 2011 Kia models on approved credit (OAC). No interest will accrue during the first 90 days of the finance contract. After this period interest starts to accrue and the purchaser will repay principal and interest monthly over the term of the contract. * Win up to $10,000 towards your purchase or lease of any new 2010/2011 Kia model. No purchase necessary. Contest open to Canadian residents with a valid driver's license who have reached the age of majority in their province of residence. Contest closes January 3rd, 2011. Credit awards are tax-inclusive and can only be applied to the purchase or lease of new 2010 and 2011 Kia vehicles delivered out of dealer stock on or before January 3rd, 2011. All participants will receive an award consisting of a credit award in an amount varying from $500 to $10,000. Not all awards have the same odds of winning. Potential award recipients must correctly answer a skill-testing question. Other restrictions may apply, please see your Kia dealer for full contest rules. †Cash purchase price for 2011 Sorento (SR540B)/2011 Soul (SO550B)/ 2011 Kia Rondo (RN751B) is $21,679/$15,679/$19,179 and includes a cash credit of $4,100/$2,000/$2,500 and delivery and destination fees ($1,650/$1,650/$1,650), OMVIC fee, Environmental Fee and Air Tax (where applicable), based on the Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price of $23,995/$15,995/$19,995. *Cash savings vary by model and trim. ^Monthly payment for 2011 Rio (RO542B) starts at $181 for 84 months at 0% finance APR based on the Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price of $13,695. Delivery and Destination fees ($1,455), OMVIC fee, Environmental Fee and Air Tax (where applicable) included. All offers exclude licensing, registration, insurance, PPSA, applicable taxes and variable dealer administration fees (up to $699). Vehicle images shown may include optional accessories and upgrades. ^$1,000 competitive bonus available to current select competitive SUV owners. Please see dealer for eligibility and full details. •Highway/city fuel consumption for 2011 Sorento 2.4L MT (SR540B) is 7.4 L (38 MPG)/10.6 L (27 MPG); 2011 Rio (RO542B) is 5.8 L (49 MPG)/7.1 L (40 MPG); 2011 Soul (SO550B) is 6.3L (45 MPG)/7.7L (37 MPG); 2011 Rondo LX (RN751B) is 7.5L (38 MPG)/10.6L (27 MPG). The actual fuel consumption of these vehicles may vary. These estimates are based on the Government of Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. Refer to the Government of Canada publication EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide. ^ 2011 Kia Sorento/2010 Kia Soul/2011 Kia Sportage awarded the Top Safety Pick by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. The award is applicable on all 2011 Sorento/2011 Sportage models manufactured after March 2010. Visit www.iihs.org for full details. °The Bluetooth® word mark and logo are registered trademarks and are owned by Bluetooth SIG, Inc. Some vehicles advertised may include optional accessories or after-sale equipment and may not be exactly as shown. Some conditions apply to the $500 / $750, Grad Rebate Program / Kia Mobility Program. See dealer for details. Information in this advertisement is believed to be accurate at the time of print. For more information on our 5-year warranty coverage, visit kia.ca or call us at 1-877-542-2886. Offers end January 3rd, 2011. KIA is a trademark of Kia Motors Corporation.**